

Record Group 104. Entry 1.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE,
1792-1899.

RG 104 RECORDS OF THE
BUREAU OF THE MINT
U.S. Mint At Philadelphia,
1791-1936

Correspondence, 1792-1904

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE,
1792 - 1899

1870: JAN. To DEC.

BOX NO. NC-152 E-1 HM1992
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U.S. MINT GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE 1870/JANUARY - FEBRUARY

34 Beach St. New York
Feb 2^d 1870

Hon. Jas. Pollock
Director of the U. S. Mint - Phila.

Dear Sir

Some months ago I submitted to Dr. Forrey, Chief Assayer of the New York Assay Office, a copy of the specification of the Patent of Miller for refining Gold by means of Chlorine Gas, together with full practical directions for practicing the process. Dr. Forrey proposed, with the assent of the Director of the Mint, to experiment as to whether the process would be more economical than that at present employed, so as to determine whether it would be expedient to adopt it, and to pay the patentee for its use.

E. S. Rumwick
New York

In reference to
Miller's patent for
refining Gold by
Chlorine Gas. -

and asking attention
influence & has been
rewarded by the U.S.
Government.

Rec^d Feb. 3/70

Office of J. H. Gantt & Co.

Gen. P. Mott
Director

Jersey City, N. J. February 1st 1890.

United States Mint

Dear Sir -

Can you conveniently
direct one of your Clerks to give us
the names of Officers of the United
Assay Offices in the U.S. to whom we
may apply for work for Crucibles -
We have to
forward a report of the working of
our Crucibles at the U.S. Assay Office
in New York - that we desire to
get their work at the other
establishments -

Yours truly
J. H. Gantt

J. H. Gaultier & Co
Jersey City

Wants names of
Officers of Branch
Meets on the Compound
Notice about Committee.

United States Treasury,
New York.

Jan. 31. 1870.

Sir;

I herewith enclose 8-5^c coins
recd at the U.S. Treasury, this city, and
submit for your inspection.

Experts are divided in opinion as
to their genuineness. The chief of our cur-
rency dept. is in doubt, and at his sug-
gestion I forward them to obtain the de-
cision of the Mint.

Please inform me if there is a
sure test for nickle coin.

Yours truly

John O. Johnson,

U.S. Treasury

M.

Supt Mint

Philadelphia,

"In the name of God we trust" signed by the Court for

J. O. Johnson

U. S. Treasury N.Y.

Jan. 31/70

Enclosing 8-5¢
coins &c.



Treasury Department.

February 1st 1870

Sir:

The following gentlemen have been designated by the President as Commissioners for the Annual Assay at the Mint on the 14th instant, and this day duly notified of their appointment.

Professor Joseph Henry Smithsonian Inst. Washington D.C.

John Torrey U.S. Assay Office New York

Prof. Egleston Prof. Mineralogy, School Mines, Columbia College New York

Hon A E Donie Philadelphia Pa

Dr Saml A Green Boston Mass.

Hon Robt B Swain San Francisco Cal.

Hon Saml A Hilegate Jamesville Ohio

Hon John Jay Knox Treasury Department

M D Gonzano New Orleans La.

Hon James Tallock
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia Pa

Very Respectfully

Geo. S. Mott

Secretary of the Treasury

Sec'y Treasury

Announcing ap-
pointment of
Assay Commis-
sioners.



Mint of the United States.

Philadelphia, Feb 5 1860

Sir,

The accounts of this Institution do not show any memorandum of "Silver parted for the benefit of the Mint." That which is parted amounting to one dollar or under goes into the granulation and is used as an offset to the waste of the Mallet and Refiner. The quantity, in the aggregate is very small and could not without difficulty, be determined.

Very Truly Yours

J. S. Cowperthwaite

Hon. James Pollock for Treasurer
Director U. S. Mint
Philada.



Treasury Department,

Solicitor's Office,

February 4, 1870.

Sir:

I enclose herewith a letter addressed to Jacob P. Ruignwalt Esq., enclosing a form of bond to be executed by him as Master and Refiner of the Branch Mint at Carson City, Nevada, which you will please deliver or forward to him.

Very respectfully

Ele B. Bailey

Solicitor of the Treasury.

Hon. James Pollock

Director of the Mint

Philadelphia, Pa.

Solicitor of the
Treasury

Transmits, for
Execution, official
Bond of Jacob P.
Ringwalt, as Melter
& Refiner of Silver
Branch Mint



Private

Washington Feb. 4. 1870

Dear Sir,

The troubles at the Assay office, were to a great extent due to the fact that the instructions and regulations of the Mint have not been regarded as obligatory on that Office; & our report will so state with a recommendation that hereafter these regulations be strictly enforced there. This will give you an opportunity to bring that Office to the same level as our other establishments.

I find on looking at the apps furnished

that they sh^d have
an ag^t at New York
of Silver parted for
the benefit of the Mintⁿ
which I believe no
such account is kept
either at Philad^a. or
San Francisco. It was
probably discontinued
at P. & G. F. when the
regulation was presented
that neither gold nor
Silver shall be separated
for the benefit of the
depositor, when the
net product of operations,
shall be less than one
dollar. -

The Com^{rs} of the
Mint probably be able
to furnish information
on the point.

It was no doubt

A firm memory, we
did not put it
clearly. What the
Inventor meant we
asked Mr Edelman
was whether existing
regulations at that
Office insured
depositories &c.
for we did not
then precisely what
then regulations were.
We thought that such
an enquiry would
call them out.

It was not until
the paper (sent to you)
was received here 25th
ult. that the importance
of the points developed
themselves. I have
no doubt that much

Good the result
from the investigation
of these intricate
matters.

Should the
Executive reply not
make the matter
clear, the will
communicate further
with you.

Very Respectfully
H. B. Dickinson

Wm James Pollock
Director,

Please show this
to Prof Brooks.

Rec^d
Feb 7/70

Recd
Sept. 7/70

Washington
Oct. 8. 1870.

Dear Sir,

Your communication
concerning Prof Booths Report
was received this morning.

I receive that Edelman
& Masons papers raised the
same points of inquiry,
in your mind that it
did in ours. - about
four days ago I addressed
certain inquiries to the
Edelman, which when
answered, will enable us
to solve the question.
The new published report
until his reply is received.

You appear either
to have misunderstood
the exact nature of our
present inquiry, or in stating

Dr. H. R. Linderman
Special Agent

In reference to Masnie
alleged improvements in
Melting & Refining at
N.Y. Assay office.

Rec'd Feb 7/70

intended that the
item should be discon-
tinued at the New
York Assay Office. -
However we had
better be certain
about it - Please
let me hear from
you as early as
convenient on this
point as I am
anxious to get this
my business off my
hands. -

Truly Yours
H. Richardson

Wm James Pollock
Breida W. S. Mint

Dr. H. R. Linderman
(to Director)
"Silver purchase for the benefit
of the Mint" N. Y. Assay Office
no such account here.
See Leopoldskwaater answer
within & my reply.

Feb 5/70

N. Y. Assay Office

Mint of the United States.

Private (Copy) Philadelphia, Feby 5 1870

Dr H. R. Linderman

Dear Sir

Your note of the 4th inst, (marked "Private") has been received. We have no account here of "Silver parted for the benefit of the Mint" and at my request Mr Cowperthwaite examined the accounts for some years back, and has given me the result of his inquiries in the enclosed note. His statement is corroborated by Prof Booth and is no doubt correct. I am clearly of opinion that the troubles of the Assay Office in New York, have arisen from their disregard of instructions, under the pretense of independence of the Parent Mint

Yours very truly

all well.

(Signed) James Pollock

N. Y. Assay Office
Feb'y 5th 1870

Letter from Dr Linderman
Special Agt, "relative to
Silver parted for benefit
of the Mint," and the
reply of the Director

Mint of the United States.

Philadelphia Feb'y 5 1870

Hon. James Pollock

Director &c. &c.

Dear Sir,

The five-cent nickel-copper pieces sent by Mr Johnson of the U. S. Treasury at New York, have given occasion to an interesting & important examination; the first of the kind that we have been called on to make. Hitherto, the counterfeits of this coin have usually been casts; but we have here a coinage, with dies.

There were eight pieces. At first sight, the general appearance as to engraving and color, led to the belief that four were genuine, and four counterfeit, which ^{on} further trial proved to be the fact. Our ~~principal~~ ^{most} ready test, with all kinds of coin, is the weight, which counterfeiters can seldom bring out right. The true weight is $77\frac{1}{6}$ grains. Three of the

pieces were grossly in error, being under 70 grains; a fourth, suspected piece, happened to be just right. This last piece was subjected to assay, and proved to contain fourteen per cent. nickel, instead of twenty five, the lawful proportion. It also contained a large proportion of zinc; making in fact the usual "German silver." The dies were the same as in the other three, except the date, 1869; the others being '68 & '67. All of these four pieces have a yellowish tint; and the engraving is false and coarse, but not sufficiently so to be detected by a hasty inspection. On the whole, it is a dangerous issue; and proves that, with more skill in engraving and alloying, great frauds could be practised.

The genuine pieces were close to the legal weight. In this respect we have always found an admirable conformity, of our five-cent piece, as often as we have had occasion to try it.

The specific gravity of the good pieces is 8.98, or might be called 9.00.- Of the bad pieces, 8.72; which in the hands of a careful weigher, would be a sure & conclusive test. Respectfully yours
The pieces, except the one assayed, are returned. J. R. Eckstein Assayer.

U. S. Mint
J. R. Eckfeldt
Assayer

Feby 5th 1870

Relation to five cent
Nickel - Copper pieces
sent by Mr Johnson
of the U. S. Treasury N. Y.

Mint of the United States,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, 2. Feb. 1870

Hon. James Pollock

Director of the U. S. Mint.

Dear Sir,

I have examined the 3 documents referred to by the letter of Mess. Linderman & Knox of the 24th Ult. & offer the following remarks on the same.

1. The letter of M^r Edelman refers for fulness of detail to M^r Mason's Statement, & gives some explanation of the cause of the surplus in the accounts of the Melter & Refiner.

I observe that M^r E's statement that "a net deficit of \$20,325 = appears in the operations on $26\frac{1}{2}$ millions of ounces of Gold & Silver from 1854 to 1864 Inclusive" fails to express any definite relation to the Gross weight (or Standard) of both gold and silver. Upon examining the appended Tables, I find that the total loss of gold during those years was a very small fraction of the legal allowance (only about 6 pr. ct. of it) and that there was an absolute surplus of over 3000 oz. Silver.

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After an experience of 20 years in the M. & R. department of the Mint, I would say that such a record shows, at least on its face, an excellent working of the M. & R. Dept^t of the N. Y. assay office, from 1854 to 1864, on the part of the officer or officers in charge, except that the surplus of silver looks as if the interests of the Depositor might possibly have been less attended to than that of the Gov^t. I certainly prefer such a statement, at least on its face only, to the result of the subsequent 5 years, which shows an absolute gain of $1137\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Gold, and of over 13,000 oz. Silver, which of course has been lost by the depositor.

That fallacious conclusions might be drawn from such figures, Mr E. meets to some extent, by saying that the gains in gold arise from the small fractions in silver deposits, gains in deposit melting, in small fractions in weighing deposits, & fractions in assay returns; — and that the gains in silver arise from the degree of fineness of gold above 990, the balance of extractible silver insuring to the Mint or Ass. Office, and from the above gains in melting, weighing & assaying deposits. The explanation is correct in its outline, & might, if need were, be filled up more minutely.

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impossible to establish a constant of error, and therefore some compensating gains should be allowed the M. & R. to cover unavoidable wastage, & drawn from the Depositor.

Now if there must be loss from operating on gold & silver, a surplus in accounts is necessarily below the truth, so that the Depositors have lost more than such surplus indicates. The fallacy of gains on paper, as showing quality of work, is shown by comparing two years' results in Mr Mason's Tables, say 1867 & 1868. In the former on about one million ounces of silver, the gain was 2733 oz., while in 1868 on $1\frac{1}{2}$ million of ounces, it was only 1221.

Having touched on loss & gain in general in the M. & R.'s accounts, I now state that there is no doubt that some of the surplus silver is ~~double loss~~ due to Mr Mason's improvements, but not the whole of it. For, the approximation of the calculated gains to the actual surplus, leaves out of view some absolute loss, without which no human being could conduct the operations on the silver. How much this absolute loss has been no one can determine, and an estimate would be worthless.

Mint of the United States,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, 186

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Before concluding these remarks on M^r Edelman's letter & the subjects it wakes, I must protest against one ground which he alleges for remunerating M^r Mason, viz. "faithfulness in the operations of his department generally."

a ground which I presume M^r Mason himself would reject. as it involves an implication against the faithfulness of all office holders in the U. S. D. M^r Mason's letter, descriptive of his improvements, and monetary estimates of their value is clear.

There are two processes resorted to for refining gold, in both of which gold is melted up with silver, and then the silver in the gold, as well as that added, is extracted by one process by Nitric acid, & by the other by Oil of vitriol. The former is the long known quartation process; the latter has been in operation over 30 years. By the latter more silver can be extracted from gold than by the former, at the same expense.

M^r Mason's 2nd Improvement consists in neatly combining these two processes together, so that there is a closer extraction of silver from the gold. For the purposes

of commerce, this is a gain, because in general the silver remaining in fine gold is not reckoned in value, & therefore all the silver extracted, less the special cost of extraction, is so much clear gain. Mr Mason therefore deserves credit for his improvement.

But while the fine bars thus made answer as well for general commercial purposes, they are frequently unfitted for our use in coinage, by their yielding brittle metal, when alloyed with copper and rolled, so that we have been often obliged to remelt & flux them in order to render them fit for coinage. I doubt not, that if this were duly attended to at the Assay Office, Mr Mason's 2nd improvement would be as well adapted for coinage-metal, as for commercial fine bars. In general, refining by oil of vitriol has always been found to yield a more brittle gold than refining by nitric acid, (probably by reason of lead, &c. in oil of vitriol,) and to demand more careful handling to render it fully tough.

If Mr Mason had been obliged to make standard metal for rolling, &c. he would no doubt have discovered the defect of which I speak, & have invented the remedy.

Mint of the United States,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, 186

The 1st Improvement of M^r Mason consists in diminishing the proportion of silver to gold in the operation of refining gold by acid. The method formerly practised was to melt the gold with 3 times its weight of silver, & as the gold constituted then one fourth the weight of the whole alloy, the process was termed quartation. My predecessors in office reduced the proportion of silver from 3 to $2\frac{3}{4}$ and less. I reduced the proportion from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 parts of silver to one of gold, in the gross, and under this improvement ^{about} ~~nearly~~ 30 millions of ounces have been refined, at a cost of several hundred thousand dollars less, than ^{the cost} prior to my improvement. M^r Mason ^{has} still further improved the process, by diminishing the proportion to $1\frac{85}{100}$ silver to 1 of pure gold, thereby effecting a considerable saving in the cost of refining, by his improved process with both nitric and sulphuric acid, and for this improvement, he deserves unquestionable credit.

Whether the saving which Mr Mason has effected equals all that he claims for it, may admit of some doubt when the figures are narrowly examined. For example, the proportion of Parting acid which we employ to extract silver is from $2\frac{1}{4}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ parts for each part of silver, and not 3 to 1, our amount being usually about $2\frac{3}{4}$.

Again we only give $11\frac{1}{2}$ cts. for Parting acid, & not 12 cts. as Mr Mason has estimated. Making however fair allowance for these tendencies to slight exaggeration, there is no doubt that a considerable saving is effected by his improvements on the ordinary methods of refining.

Whether Mr Mason should receive compensation for the saving he has effected, or how much might be due for them, it is beyond my province to determine, but it will always give me pleasure to hear that a Public officer is compensated for important and unusual saving effected by his knowledge and study, altho not for his mere faithfulness, which is a duty. In this light therefore, I think that Mr Mason might very properly be fairly compensated.

Very truly yours

Jas C Booth M. & R.

Mint of the United States,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, 186

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8

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Very truly yours

Jas C Booth M. & R.

(Copy)

United States Assay Office

New York Jan^y 20th 1870

Dr H R Linderman

Special Agent T. D. }

Washington }

Dear Sir

I have considered your letters of the 4th and 13th inst; the former relating to "Mr Masons improvements in the refining operations of the Assay Office," and the latter requesting me to explain the origin of the surplus of both gold and silver returned by the Melter & Refiner over and above the amount which had been charged to him, and to state whether the present regulations insure to depositors respectively full returns for their bullion.

In as much as the two subjects referred to, in your letters, are closely allied to each other, I have thought it best to consider them together.

For a proper understanding of the improvements in the refining operations, I refer you to Mr Masons letter to me, herein enclosed, accompanied with his

his report on this subject. As he has presented his case so fully and clearly, I deem it ~~superfluous~~ ^{superfluous} for me to enter into further particulars. It may be proper, however, to state that the striking feature to my mind is, that during ten years of the conduct of the Melter & Refiners department, as gathered from the enclosed statement of gains and losses, since the commencement of the business of the office, a net deficit of \$20.325 appeared in the operations upon 26½ million ounces of gold and silver, while Mr Mason's administration of five years. (the last four embracing the period of the use of his two improvements,) produced a surplus or gains amounting to \$37.134 in the operations upon 10 million ounces of gold & silver. How far this great difference in the results of the two periods should be attributed to Mr Mason's two improvements may be determined approximately from his detailed report. In addition to this cause, I am satisfied that his usual skill, fidelity, and industry, have secured from these methods whatever profit they are capable of yielding, so that he is entitled to a proper remuneration from the

Government not only for the use of his most valuable methods of refining, but also for his faithfulness in the operations of his department generally. As respects the surplus in Silver of 22 10 ²⁶/₁₀₀ ounces, it is explained chiefly by the practice of settling with the depositor for the Silver in his gold, upon the basis of refining the gold to 990 ~~‰~~, while our Melter & Refiner has been able to bring it up to 997 ~~‰~~, showing a saving to the Office of 7 ~~‰~~ on all the gold from which Silver is parted.

The gains from deposit melting and from fractions in sundry weighings and from the report of finenesses, the fractions between the half and whole millieme being rejected, ~~constitute~~ a partial explanation of the surplus both of gold and silver. The chief source, from which the surplus of gold arises, is owing to the small portions of gold, found in a large number of our silver deposits, too small to be reported for the benefit of the depositor, being excluded by the legal limit for parting.

Hoping that you will find I have

answered your several inquiries to your
satisfaction,

I am

Very truly

+ Respectfully yours

(Signed) Geo W Edelman

Supt ad-interim

(Copy)

United States Assay Office
New York January 18th 1870

Geo W. Edelman Esq
Superintendent &c

Dear Sir

In answer to your favor of
5th inst conveying the request of Dr H R Linderman,
Special Agent of the Treasury Dept for a "description
in detail of the modifications and improvements
of the ordinary Nitric Acid process introduced by
Mr Mason your Melters & Refiners in the refining
operations of the Assay Office," I beg leave to submit
the accompanying statement showing also the
amount saved by their use in this office alone
during the past four years, to have been One hundred
and nineteen thousand, four hundred and fifty, seven
89/100 Dollars (\$ 119,457.89)

This result more than justifies the estimate
of June 29th 1866, that the saving that would be
effected by their introduction in all the govern-
ment establishment "would amount in one year
to about \$75,000".

The subject having been brought to the

notice of the Treasury Department, a letter of which
the following is a copy was received by the
former Superintendent. "Treasury Department
February 20th 1867

Sir

Your letters of the 16th and 18th insts encl^d
=sing communications from Andrew Mason
relative to the improvements in the process for
separating gold and silver introduced by him
into the New York Assay Office, and asking for
compensation from the Government for benefit
derived from their use, have been received.
Copies of your letters, and the Communications of
Mr Mason will be submitted to the Fortieth Congress
with the request that a reasonable appropriation may
be made to Mr Mason for his improvements

Very Respectfully

W^m E Chandler

Assistant Secretary "

Having no evidence that the intention of the Dep^t
=artment expressed in the foregoing has been carried
into effect, it does not seem improper, while answering
Dr Lindermans inquiry, to ask that its attention
may be again called to it. I do it the more

fully because of the knowledge of the subject
possessed by both of you.

Very Respectfully
(Signed) And^m Mason
Melter & Refiner

look

Statement of two improvements in the mode of parting gold and silver, introduced in the U.S. Assay Office, New York, by Andrew Mason Melted & Refiner, and of the saving effected thereby during the four years from 1866 to 1869 incl.

Almost all the gold deposits contain sufficient silver to make it profitable to separate the two metals. This was done by melting them adding twice their weight of silver, and granulating the mixture which was then subjected to the action of Nitric Acid. The silver was dissolved and the gold (remaining undissolved) being completely freed from the Nitrate of Silver by washing, was pressed, dried, melted, and cast into bars. After precipitation as Chloride from solution by salt, and the reduction of the Chloride by Zinc, the silver was treated in like manner. As these gold deposits ranged in fineness from 970 to 334 thous., the mixture prepared as above for granulation &c varied greatly in character.

After having carefully ascertained the lowest proportion of silver to gold, at which the acid would freely dissolve the silver, - by obtaining the fineness of the various deposits, assorting them, and adding just enough silver to each class (readily done by the use of a table) to make all the mixed metal of the said proportion, several very desirable results have been gained.

The quantity of silver requiring to be melted, mixed, granulated, dissolved and subsequently recovered from solution has been largely reduced.

By reason of the gold retaining, to some extent, a spongy consistency, the liability to wastage of gold has been very much lessened; - while by affording more facility for the action of the acid on the last portions of silver, the process has been more thorough

in its operation.

Under the impression that a considerable margin was requisite on account of possible want of mixture, the proportion first adopted was that of 2 parts Silver (or other alloy) to (one) 1 part gold (pure); but the experience of more than a year has demonstrated that 1.85 parts silver to 1 part gold works well always.

The saving effected by this change will appear by the following calculation made from the records of the department.

During 1869 — 485200 oz Gold Bullion, averaging 813.2 thous. fine was operated on.

By the old process it would have been melted with	970400 oz silver
" " new " " was	639307 " "
making a difference of	<u>331093</u> " "

This would have required for its solution in the old way 993279 of Nitric Acid which would have cost at the current price (68112 lbs @ 12¢) ————— \$8173.44

The saving in other materials and labor that would have been required for the recovery of the silver from solution, and incidental to the process generally, cannot be fixed definitely; but as the entire cost of these is much more than twice that of acid, it is less than a reasonable estimate to put it down as equal in amount ————— 8173.44

Making a saving in 1869, by this improvement, of ————— \$16346.88

By calculation in the same way, the saving for the preceding three years was as follows —

In 1868 on 474958 oz gold Bullion, averaging 831 thous fine	14355.26
1867 " 329313 " " 828.4 " "	8340.52
1866 " 801039 " " 848 " "	22107.88
Making the saving during the four years	<u>\$61150.54</u>

By the old process the granulations were subjected to the action of Nitric Acid in two separate charges -

The 2nd. improvement consists in the substitution of a boiling in strong sulphuric acid for the 2nd Charge of Nitric Acid. This has effected a further saving of acid, and extracted also full five thousandths of Silver additional, raising the fineness of the gold to that of European Bars (about 998 m)

The following calculation will show the amount of saving effected in this way.

In 1869, the silver added to the gold Bullion was, as stated above,	639307 ozs
The silver in the bullion itself, and taken out by refining it to 993 thous. was $485200 \text{ oz} \times 179.8 \text{ thous} (993 - 813.2)$	<u>87239. "</u>
Making together	<u>726546 " " "</u>

This would have required for solution in the old way

(3 parts Acid for 1 part Silver)	2179638 oz. Nit. Acid.
----------------------------------	------------------------

It required by the new way (2.39 parts for 1 part silver)	1736445 " " "
--	---------------

The difference, 443193 ozs Nitric Acid would have cost (30391 lbs @ 12¢) ————— \$3646.92

Deducting the cost of boiling in sulphuric acid

(726546 oz Silver $\times 0.4 = 290618 \text{ oz Acid}$) 19929 lbs @ $3\frac{15}{100}$ ¢	<u>627.76</u>
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It leaves a net saving of acid in 1869 of \$3019.16

By a similar calculation the saving in this way in 1868 was	3068.48
---	---------

" " " " " 1867 "	2222.02
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" " " " " 1866 "	<u>5212.60</u>
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Making the saving of Acid by this change in the four years \$13522.26

The silver recovered by the use of this improvement in 1869 was ($394564 \text{ oz fine Gold} \times \frac{5}{1000}$) 1972.82 which at \$1.³⁶ per oz

($\$1.22\frac{1}{2}$ per Standard ounce) amounts to $\$2683.03$

Deducting the additional expense involved

4715 oz Nitric Acid (323 lb, @ 12¢) $\$38.76$

789 " Sulph. " (54 " " $3\frac{15}{100}$ ¢) 1.70

Other materials & labor $\underline{38.76}$ $\underline{79.22}$

It leaves a net gain in Silver Coin of $\$2603.81$

By a similar calculation the gain for 1868 was 2605.30

" " " 1867 " 1800.37

" " " 1866 " 4450.61

Making a gain of Silver Coin in the four years of $\underline{\underline{\$11460.09}}$

This amount ($\$11460.09$) is more than justified by the surplus silver delivered to the Treasurer in these years ($\$14590.35$) a comparison with the account of the ten years before the change indicating that more than one half of the difference between these two sums should also be credited to the improvements.

The surplus gold has now become an item of magnitude in the accounts of the office. A small portion of this is obtained from sweepings of the deposit melting room; but it is mainly due to the many fractional gains in the fineness and weight of deposits, and the gold present in many silver deposits in too minute quantities to be reported.

Not only did all these disappear under the old system, but it was found necessary to cover by the legal allowance for wastage an actual average annual deficiency during the ten years previous to the introduction of these improvements of 115.66 oz fine gold, worth at $\$20.67$ per oz $\$2390.69$

During the last four years, the reduction of the wastage has not only overcome this previous annual loss, but enabled the following amounts to be paid to the Treasurer in excess of what was charged to the Melter & Refiner in account.

In 1869.	368.69	oz Fine Gold	value-	\$ 7620.82
" 1868	237.30	" " "	"	4904.99
" 1867	339.40	" " "	"	7015.40
" 1866	166.85	" " "	"	3448.79
	<u>1112.24</u>	" " "	"	<u>\$ 22990.00</u>

By adding these several amounts as stated	\$ 74672.80
a saving is shown in expenditures of	34450.09
And an actual gain in Gold & Silver of	<u>109122.89</u>
Together	

Adding a premium of say 30% (less than the average) to the sum 10335.

It makes the saving by the introduction of the two improvements during the four years, in Currency, of \$ 119457.89

U.S. Assay Office New York June 18th. 1870.
(signed) Andrew Mason

Melter & Refiner's Wastage, U. S. Assay Office

Gold Bullion

Silver Bullion

Period	Gold Bullion				Silver Bullion			
	amt. opera- ted on	amt. lost	amt gained	loss in 1000s	amount operated on	amt. lost	amt. gained	loss in 1000s
	St. ounces	dec	oz. dec	oz. dec	Std oz.	dec	oz. dec	oz. dec
Oct. 10 to Dec. 31 } 1854	164 026.175		117.702	0.717	541 103.69	1,023.26		1.892
Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 } 1855	1 125 262.571		1061.509	0.943	2 437 650.00	1,806.96		0.741
" 1856	1 059 765.784		230.867	0.218	2 799 332.36	498.37		0.178
" 1857	1 167 758.397		358.661		1 954 668.81		894.29	
" 1858	1 029 110.971		171.270		3 902 271.54		113.31	
" 1859	263 007.418		146.423		1 048 880.00	818.19		0.780
Jan. 1. 1860 to Mar. 31. 1861	1 860 947.340		354.214	0.190	1 001 916.11		674.00	
Apr. 1 to Dec. 31 } 1861	2 426 667.292		213.965	0.088	1 679 972.42		4794.14	
	9 096 545.948		1978.257	676.354	15 365 794.93	4147.48	6475.74	
1862	163 128.320		123.326		716 808.42		934.24	
1863	77 452.204		129.948		518 930.41		376.47	
1864	151 450.062		236.582		526 127.22	557.34		
	9 488 576.534		2 214.839	929.628	17 127 660.98	4704.82	7786.45	
1865	382 546.656		98.223		1 051 084.31		1802.99	
1866	845 984.468		185.396		2 197 912.31		5755.66	
1867	301 778.693		377.117		998 396.54		2733.18	
1868	435 069.501		263.674		1 502 450.19		1221.13	
1869	448 989.069		409.660		1 877 358.45		2210.26	
	2 444 348.387		98.223	1235.847	7 627 201.80		13,723.22	

N. Y. Assay office

Papers relating to
Andrew Mason's im-
provements in melting &
refining & accompanying
letter of Secy. Treasury of 24th
January 1870 -
Also Rep. Booth's reply

Recd
Jan. 25/70

Treasury Department.

January 24th 1870.

Sir:

In view of the importance of the subjects of refining, wastage &c, and desiring to obtain as much information in relation thereto as possible before submitting our report as to the management of the United States Assay Office, New York, we have thought it proper to request that you will examine, in connection with Professor Booth, Melter & Refiner of the Mint, the following papers:

First - Letter of G. H. Edelman Actg. Supt. U. S. Assay Office dated 20th instant.

Second - Letter of Andrew Mason Melter & Refiner dated 18th instant.

Third - Statements Nos 1 & 2 enclosed therein.

and present to us as early as convenient any views or suggestions you may deem proper to make in reference to the information presented by Mr. Edelman & Mr. Mason in reply to our Enquiries on the following points viz:

"A description of Mr. Mason's improvements in the refining operations"

of that office, and an explanation of the surplus gold & silver
returned by that office, and also "whether existing regulations
assure to the depositors respectively, full returns for their bullion"
at said office. Please return the papers enclosed.

Very Respectfully Yours

H. R. Linderman
Special Agent T. D.

Hon James Pollock
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia Pa

Truitt

Sec Compt of Currency

Sec'y Treasury

Inviting opinion upon
alleged improvements
in refining operations
by Andrew Mason,
Melter & Refiner of N. Y.
Assay Office -

(Also the paper referred
to, & Prof. Booth's reply)

Rec^d Jan 25/70

Rec'd Feb. 8/70.

United States Assay Office
New York, February 7th 1870.

Sir:

Mr. Mason, the Melter & Refiner of this Office, has completed the settlement of his account for 1869, with the following highly satisfactory result.

Gold Bullion:

Whole amt. del.^d to him during the year, \$ 8,345,291.21

Amount returned by him on settlement 8,352,912.91

Gold Surplus, \$ 7,621.70

Silver Bullion:

Whole amt. del.^d to him during the year \$ 2,181,990.64

Amount returned on settlement 2,184,562.56

Silver Surplus, 2,571.92

Total Surplus for the year. \$ 10,193.62

The average fineness of the fine gold bars manufactured at this Office during the year is 997 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$. This gives a gain to the government of 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ $\frac{1}{2}$ of silver on the amount parted & refined, inasmuch as the settlement with the depositors is on the basis of 990 $\frac{1}{2}$. This is nearly

Sufficient of itself to account for the surplus in the Silver, without reckoning slight gains from fractional differences in weight & fineness in favor of the M&R, or those from deposit melting.

These latter sources of gain appear also in the gold Surplus, besides the minute portions of gold contained in many of the Silver deposits, which, under the law, are not credited to the depositor.

I send, herewith, a copy of Mr. Mason's statement in regard to the two improvements introduced by him.

The report was furnished by him in response to a request of Dr. Linderman, Special Agent of the Treasury department.

In reading this report, I notice that Mr. Mason has found, in his parting operations, that the proportion first adopted of 2 parts of Silver (or other alloy) to 1 part gold (pure) could be changed to 1.85 part Silver to 1 part gold, and thereby an additional saving to the government could be effected.

In view of this one feature, which, I presume, applies equally well to the operations in all the Mint Institutions, I have thought it important to send you a copy of his entire report, believing it will commend itself to your favorable consideration, not only on account of the benefit the government derives from the use of these improved

methods, but also as bespeaking, in his behalf,
such service as you may feel justified in rendering,
in order to obtain for him a suitable remuneration.

Very respectfully
Your Obedt. Servt
Esco. W. Edelman,
Surp^{dr} - ad-interim.

Statement of two improvements in the mode of parting Gold & Silver, introduced in the United States Assay Office, New York, by And^{rs} Mason, Melter & Refiner, & of the saving effected thereby during the four years from 1866 to 1869 inclusive.

Almost all the Gold deposits contain sufficient Silver to make it profitable to separate the two metals. This was done by melting them, adding twice their weight of Silver, & granulating the mixture, which was then subjected to the action of Nitric Acid. The Silver was dissolved, & the Gold (remaining undissolved) being completely freed from the nitrate of silver by washing, was pressed, dried, melted, & cast into bars. After precipitation as chloroform solution by salt, & the reduction of the chloride ^{by zinc}, the Silver was treated in like manner. As these Gold deposits ranged in fineness from 970 to 334 thons., the mixture prepared as above for granulation, &c., varied greatly in character.

After having carefully ascertained the lowest proportion of Silver to Gold at which the acid would freely dissolve the Silver; by obtaining the fineness of the various deposits, assorting them, & adding just enough Silver to each class (readily done by the use of a table) to make all the mixed metal of said proportion, several very desirable results have been gained.

The quantity of Silver requiring to be melted, mixed, granulated, dissolved, & subsequently recovered from solution, has been largely reduced.

By reason of the Gold retaining, to some extent, a spongy consistency, the liability to wastage of Gold has been very much lessened; while by affording more facility for the action of the acid on the last portions of ~~the~~ Silver, the process has been more thorough in its operation.

Under the impression that a considerable margin was requisite on account of possible want of mixture, the proportion first adopted was that of 2 parts Silver (or other alloy) to 1 part Gold (pure); but the experience of more than a year has demonstrated that 1.85 parts Silver to 1 part Gold works well always. The saving effected by this change will appear by the following calculation made from the records of the department:

During 1869, 485,200 Oz. Gold Bullion, averaging 813.2 thons. fine, was operated on.

By the old process, it would have been melted with 970,400^{oz} Silver.

" " new " " was " " 639,307 "

making a difference of 331,093 "

This would have required for its solution in the old way 993,279 oz. Nitric Acid, which would have cost, at the current price (68,112 lbs @ 12¢) \$8,173.44

The saving in other materials, & labor, that would have been required for the recovery of

Brought forward \$8,173.44
the Silver from solution, & incidental to the
process generally, cannot be fixed definitely;
but as the entire cost of these is much more
than twice that of acid, it is less than a
reasonable estimate to put it down as equal
in amount. 8,173.44

making a saving in 1869, by this improvement, of. \$16,346.88

By calculation in the same way, the
saving for the preceding three years was as
follows:

In 1868, on 474,958 oz. Gold bullion, averaging 831 thous. fine	\$14,355.26
" 1867, " 329,313 " " " 828.4 " "	8,340.52
" 1866, " 801,039 " " " 848 " "	22,107.88
making the saving during the four years	<u>\$61,150.54</u>

By the old process, the granulations were subject-
ed to the action of Nitric Acid in two separate
charges.

The 2nd improvement consists in the substitution
of a boiling in strong Sulphuric Acid for the 2nd
charge of Nitric Acid. This has effected a further
saving of acid, & extracted also full five thousandths
of Silver additional, raising the fineness of the Gold
to that of European Bars (about 998 ^{parts} 1000).

The following calculation will show the amount
of saving effected in this way.

In 1869, the Silver added to the Gold bullion
was, as stated above, 639,307 oz.

Brought forward.. 639,307 oz.

The Silver in the Bullion itself, & taken out
by refining it to 993 thons., was 485,200 oz. x

179.8 thons. (993 m. - 813.2 m.) 87,239 "

making together 726,546 Sil.

This would have required, for solution in the
old way, (3 parts acid for 1 part-Silver) 2,179,638 oz. Nitric Acid

It required by the new way (2.39 parts acid for 1 part Silver) 1,736,445 " "

The difference, 443,193 oz. Nitric Acid, would have
cost (30,391 lbs. @ 12¢) \$3,646.92

Deducting the cost of boiling in Sulphuric
Acid (726,546 oz. Silver x 0.4 = 290,618 oz. Acid)

19,929 lbs. @ 3¹⁵/₁₀₀¢ 627.76

It leaves a net saving of acid in 1869 of... \$3,019.16

By a similar calculation, the saving in this way in 1868, was 3,068.48

" " " " 1867, " 2,222.02

" " " " 1866, " 5,212.60

making the saving of acid by this change in four years \$13,522.26

The Silver recovered by the use of this improvement
in 1869, was (394,564 oz. Fine Gold x ⁵/₁₀₀₀) 1,972.82 oz.,

which at \$1.36 per oz. (\$1.22¹/₂ per standard ounce)

amounts to \$2,683.03

Deducting the additional expense involved.

4715 oz. Nitric Acid (323 lbs. @ 12¢) ... \$38.76

789 " Sulphuric " (54 " @ 3¹⁵/₁₀₀¢) 1.70

Other materials & labor 38.76 79.22

It leaves a net gain in Silver Coin of... \$2,603.81

Brought Forward, \$2,603.81
 By a similar calculation, the gain for 1868 was . . . 2,605.30
 " " " 1867 " . . . 1,800.37
 " " " 1866 " . . . 4,450.61

making a gain of Silver Coins in the four years of . . . \$11,460.09

This amount (\$11,460.09) is more than justified by the surplus Silver delivered to the Treasurer in these years (\$14,590.35); a comparison with the account of the ten years before the change indicating that more than one half of the difference between these two sums should also be credited to the improvement.

The surplus Gold has now become an item of magnitude in the accounts of the Office. A small portion of this is obtained from the Sweepings of the deposit-melting room; but it is mainly due to the many fractional gains in the fineness & weight of deposits, & the Gold present in many Silver deposits in too minute quantities to be reported.

Not only did all these disappear under the old system, but it was found necessary to cover by the legal allowance for wastage an actual ^{average} annual deficiency during the ten years previous to the introduction of these improvements of 115.66 oz. Fine Gold, worth at \$20.67 per oz. - \$2,390.69.

During the last four years, the reduction of the wastage has not only overcome this previous annual loss, but enabled the following amounts to be paid to the Treasurer, in excess of what was charged to the Melter & Refiner in account:

In 1869 - 368.69 oz. Fine Gold - value	\$7,620.82
" 1868 - 237.30 "	4,904.99
" 1867 - 339.40 "	7,015.40
" 1866 - 166.85 "	3,448.79
<u>1,112.24 "</u>	<u>\$22,990.00</u>

By adding these several amounts as stated, a saving is shown in expenditures of . . . \$74,672.80
 And an actual gain in Gold + Silver of . . . 34,450.09
 Together. \$109,122.89

Adding a premium of say 30% (less than the average) to the 2nd, . . . 10,335.00

It makes the saving, by the introduction of the two improvements, during the four years, in currency, of . . . \$119,457.89

U. S. Assay Office,

New York, Jan 18th 1870.

New York Assay
Office.

Enclosing
Statement of two im-
provements in parting
Gold & Silver by And^r
Massey, M & R. N.Y.
Assay Office, & the Savings
Effectuated in 4 years from
1866 to 1869, inclusive

Received
Feb 8. 1870.

Philadelphia

February 7th 1870

Sir

The Undersigned Surveyor of the Port, Naval Officer, and Director of the Mint, at Philadelphia respectfully report:

That in accordance with the instructions from the Secretary of the Treasury, dated January 25th 1870, and the requirements of the Act of August 6th 1846, entitled "An Act to provide for the better organization of the Treasury, and for the collection, safe-keeping, transfer and disbursement of the public money," they presented themselves at the Office of the Assistant Treasurer of the United States, at the beginning of business, on Wednesday, the 2nd day of February 1870, continuing the investigation on the 3rd, 4th and 5th, and made a careful examination, in the manner prescribed by the instructions of the Secretary, of the books accounts, and moneys on hand, in the Office of the Assistant Treasurer, with the following result: —

They find the assets of the Treasurer to be as follows

Assets

U. S. Notes	352.531	00
National Bank Notes	68.650	00
Fractional Currency (new issue)	223.509	66
Redeemed 5¢ pieces (nickel)	10.525	00
U. S. Demand Notes	75	00
U. S. Gold certificates	402.340	00
Gold Coin	3.682.353	00
Silver Coin	87.043	83
Redeemed Legal-tender notes	27.999	00
Temporary loan certificates and Interest	205	06
Coin coupons - payments on Interest account	398.809	00
Interest on Temporary loan certificates	2.121	00
7-30 Coupons	5	47
	\$ 5.256.167	02

Amongst the assets, returned as Silver coin, they find the sum of \$235.00 in Nickel, which was received by the present Treasurer from his predecessor, as silver-said nickel being, as represented the accumulation of small sums received from Custom receipts, as silver

They find the Liabilities of the Treasurer to consist of the following items and amounts:

<u>Liabilities</u>		
Due Treasurer United States	}	4,706.302 74
General Account		
Due Treasurer United States	}	33,087 67
Transfer Account		
Due Post Office Department		65,265 81
Due Disbursing Officers		392,908 80
Due Interest Account Coin		46,887 00
Due Interest Account Notes		2,340 00
Office Expense ac		9,375 00
		<u>\$5,256.167 02</u>

Having made a careful examination of the books, accounts, and returns kept in the office of the Assistant Treasurer, they find that the liabilities of the office agree with the assets.

They take pleasure in reporting that the business in the office of the Assistant Treasurer, is in their judgment, transacted with accuracy and fidelity -

Very Respectfully

(Signed) E. O Goodrich
Surveyor of the Port

D. W. C. Baxter
Naval Officer

James Pollock
Director of the Mint

Hon Geo S. Boutwell
Secretary of the Treasury
Washington D.C.

To the
Secy Treasury

(copy)

Report of Monthly
Cmt & Examination of
Money of Assistant
Treasurer U.S. by
Surveys of the Port,
Naval Officer &
Minister of the Court

Feb. 7. 1870

Nesta Johnson County Nebraska
To the Feb 7th / 90
Superintendent of the
United States Mint at
Philadelphia

Sir I send you a
Speciman enclosed that we suppose to
be Gold Dust you will understand
that I write to you directly for information
you ~~xxxxx~~ will please to inform me by letter
if gold or not if not you please to inform
me what it is if it will encroach on
your time too much to test it you will
please hand it over to some Gentleman
of your acquaintance Capable of testing it
and let him give me the required information
enclosed you will find a Stamp for return
Mail by so doing you will confer a favor on
me your obedient

Servant G. A. Ballard

P.S please direct to Nesta Johnson County
Nebraska

N.B I would just state this Speciman was washed
from dirt taken from the earth here in this County

G. A. B.

Mica with iron

G. A. Ballard

Vesta, Neb.

Feb. 17-70.

Enclosing specimen
dust.

Mica, with iron -

Ans'd

Feb. 14/70

Hes.



Philadelphia, Feb. 8. 1870.

Dear Sir,

If you intend rendering a bill for the truck, please do so at once, so that I may forward it with the bill ~~for~~ of Mr. Freeman. The bill should be made against the United States and in duplicate. It ought also to be receipted. I enclose a draft of the certificate which I have drawn in relation to the conversion of the balances. I suppose you, Mr. Snowden and myself will sign it, as we were all present. I enclose also ~~the~~ the certificate drawn by Mr. Snowden as to the accuracy of the weights. I suppose it will suffice that you and he sign it.

I did not see the weight. Please re-
turn both certificates, and do me the
favor to procure Mr. Snowden's sig-
nature to the one.

Yours truly
Charles L. Taylor

Hon James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia,

Geo. Eyster, Esq
Treasurer U.S. Mint

In reference to bill
for truck &



Phil Sheridan Kansas
12th Feby 1870

Superintendent, United States Mint;
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Sir,

We shipped you to day,
by U.S. Express, a lot, or quantity, of gold, received from
New Mexico, said to be worth \$154+

You will please coin the same and advise
us in regard to its actual value, so we can draw for
amt. Your prompt attention in case, will be highly
appreciated by,

Your obed^t serv^ts &c,
Hebster, Musick &c,
Anderson,

Webster Musick & Co
Phil Sheridan
Kansas

14 March 1870

Package of gold shipped

March 24th 1870

We have received no such package
here

W. L. C.

N^o 3963

Office of the Assistant Treasurer of the U. S.

Philadelphia, Feb'y 11th 1870

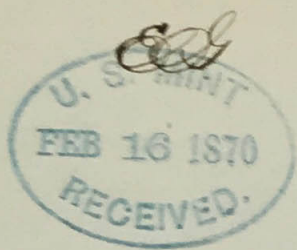
I Certify, That Geo Eyster.

has this day deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the U. S.
Twenty Five Thousand ¹⁰⁰ Dollars,
on account of Profits on 125 x 5 ct Coins

for which I have signed triplicate receipts.

\$ 75,000

C. E. Eyster
Assistant Treasurer U. S.



Treasury of the United States,

Washington, February 15, 1870.

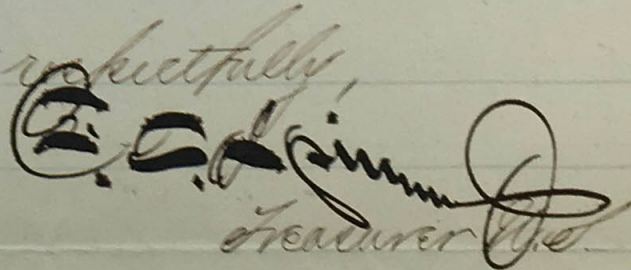
Sir:

I will thank you to inform me whether the circular of the Director of the Mint, relative to the purchase of nickel-copper cents, dated May 30, 1867, is still in force and, if it is, to forward to me about fifty copies of it, if they can be spared.

I would also esteem it a favor to receive a supply of any other circulars from the Mint, which would be of interest to this Office, if there are any such now in print.

Very respectfully,

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia,
Pa.


Treasurer U.S.

Treasurer U.S.

Wants 50 Nickel
Circulars - & also
Copies of other
Circulars.



Second National Bank

Leavenworth, Kansas Feb 15 1870

The Director of the Mint
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

I am desirous
of obtaining one of each of the Twenty
five and Fifty cent Gold coins issued
by the U.S. if it is possible. Will you
be kind enough to inform me where I can
probably get them

Yours with respect
Edmund Barr

Edmund Burr
Leavenworth Ks
Inquiring for 50 + 25
cent gold coin

Feb. 15/70

Answered

Feb. 18/70.

J.C.P.

"

Invoice No. 7.

Statement of *Silver* Bullion transmitted to the UNITED STATES MINT,
for Coinage, pursuant to Act of March, 1855, by *Chas J Folger*

Treasurer of the UNITED STATES ASSAY OFFICE.

New York February 10th 1860

Per BOXES No. *1* @ *10* CONTAINING *120* BARS.

Description.	Numbers.	Pieces.	Ounces.	dec.	Fineness.	Description.	Numbers.	Pieces.	Ounces.	dec.	Fineness.
<i>Canada Bar</i>	<i>1472</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>571</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>953 1/2</i>						
<i>Canada Bar</i>	<i>56</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>745</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>970</i>						
<i>Leads Supr</i>	<i>73</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>165</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>648 1/2</i>						
<i>Canada Bar</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>1607</i>	<i>05</i>	<i>986</i>						
<i>Do</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>1600</i>	<i>95</i>	<i>989</i>						
<i>Do</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>1030</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>991</i>						
<i>Mex. Dolls</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>1497</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>901</i>						
<i>Do</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>1467</i>	<i>05</i>	<i>899 1/2</i>						
<i>Do</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>1345</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>901</i>						
<i>Colorado Bar</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>540</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>831 1/2</i>						
<i>Spain Dolls</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>127</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>791</i>						
<i>Prussian Marks</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>217</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>804 1/2</i>						
<i>Swiss Marks</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>351</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>968 1/2</i>						
<i>Do. Bars</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>469</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>921</i>						
<i>Mex. Bars</i>	<i>91</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>549</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>997 1/2</i>						
<i>Mixed Coin</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>1021</i>	<i>35</i>	<i>892 1/2</i>						
<i>Do</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>895</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>885</i>						
<i>Do</i>	<i>100</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>711</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>897 1/2</i>						
<i>Mex Dolls</i>	<i>115</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>1734</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>902 1/2</i>						
<i>Do</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>866</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>900</i>						
<i>Do</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>1497</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>901</i>						
<i>Do</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>1495</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>902 1/2</i>						
<i>Do</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>1342</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>900 1/2</i>						
<i>Mixed Coin</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>879 1/2</i>						
<i>Swiss Bars</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>673</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>912</i>						
<i>120 22652 50</i>						<i>= Stand. Wt 23123.33 @ 1.10 1/4</i>					
						<i>Less Comage = 26907.15</i>					
						<i>Net Value = \$ 26772.01</i>					

Mint of the United States,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, 18. Feb. 1870

Hon. James Pollock

Director of the U. S. Mint.

Dear Sir,

In response to your request I have made a careful examination of the amount of business transacted in the Mint in the various operations required for Refining & Melting Gold & Silver, and for preparing the Copper Allays for Cents-Coinage; and present you herewith Schedules of the force of men employed on the several operations, & of the amounts of Cent Coinage for the last six months.

Schedule A. embraces the force of men required to operate on Gold & Silver, both Melting & Refining, with the nature of the operations specially distributed to individuals or groups of men. Of this force I would remark that I think the present ^{number} ~~force~~ engaged is not more than equal to the amount of business in Gold & Silver transacted in the Mint during the

Recd Feb. 18/70

past year, & that a diminution of this force would result in detriment to the Public Service. It is true that the number of hands might be smaller (by 2 or 3) for the average business of the year, but then, the business demand is irregular, being alternately flush & spare, & if at any time the demand is active, a less force would be insufficient to operate in a short time. The attempt to spread business over a longer space of time, in order to work with less force, the attempt to equalize the irregularities of the money market, would certainly be regarded as false economy by the public, especially by all dealers in bullion & their numerous allies, the brokers & others. I have seen no reason in the experience of years to change the opinion I formerly entertained that the working force in gold & silver should always equal emergencies, & not be laced tightly to an average. I would therefore deem a less force than we now have inadequate & inadvisable. X

Schedule B. represents at a view the present force employed in Cents Melting, & the number to which I think it may be safely reduced.

On this I would remark that about the time you

Mint of the United States,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, 186

entered upon the Directorship & previously the average daily demand for cents of the several denominations, was about \$5000,- and to meet this you diminished the previously large operative force to what seemed necessary for the then demand. Subsequently as the demand appeared to be regularly diminishing, you were considering the propriety of diminishing the force still further, on the ground that you saw no prospect of the demand again rising to its former standard.

I have prepared Schedule C, partly derived from the Paying Clerk, exhibiting the daily average demand for cents coinage, for the last six months. You will observe that by the 1st of August, the demand had already fallen to about one half of what it had been, & that from that time it has been diminishing with tolerable regularity. While I think that, in general, our working force should equal contingencies, it appears to me that we shall be sufficiently prepared for contingencies, likely to arise

in the Centage coins demand by diminishing the operative
force by about one half, as is set forth in more detail in
Sched. B.

Very truly yours
J A C Booth

Melter & Refiner

Schedule A

Force employed in Melting & RefiningGold and Silver.

<u>Office.</u>	Accountant	1	
	Clerk & Weigher	1	2
<u>Deposit Room</u>	Melters	2	
	Helpers	2	4
<u>Bullion Melting</u>	Foreman (General)	1	4
	Melters	4	
	Helpers	3	
	Hoister	1	9
<u>Refining & Refinery</u>		3	no. 4
<u>Cent Cleaning</u>	Cent Cleaners	1	
	Presser & Dryer	1	5
<u>Sweep Cellar</u>	Grinders & Sifters	2	2
<u>Furnace Builder.</u>		1	1
<u>Plumber & Gasfitter</u>		1	1
<u>Watchmen of Gold & Silver</u>		2	2
<u>Gate Keeper.</u>		1	1
Monthly pay 2463.54			<u>27</u>

Schedule B

Cent Melting

	<u>Force employed</u>	
	<u>Present</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Foreman	1	1
Melters	8	4
Helpers	19	9
Bricklayer	1	1
Gate Keeper	1	1
	<u>30</u>	<u>16</u>

Monthly pay \$2439.84

Average daily Deposits for
Nickel-Copper & Bronze Coinage.

<u>1869</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Weight</u>		<u>Value</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Total</u>	
		<u>lbs</u>			<u>lbs</u>	<u>Value</u>	<u>Weight</u>
August	\$ 2283	503		\$ 292	200	2575	703
Sept	1764	388		521	357	2285	745
Oct.	1107	244		320	219	1427	463
Nov.	697	154		271	186	968	(340
Dec.	885	195		250	171	1105	(366
<u>1870</u>							
Jan.	494	109		144	99	638	(208

Average per day for the last six months $\frac{6}{1}$ 2825
 " " " " " " three " $\frac{3}{1}$ 914
305

Rep J. C. Boothe
M. & R.

Repat on amt of
busin^g, work and
Expenses, of Cent &
General Comings —
No. of Employes & pay
from 1st July 1869 to
31st January 1870

Rec Feb 18/70

Mint of the United States,

MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT,

Philadelphia, 21. Feb. 2. 1860.

Hon. James Pollock

Director U. S. Mint

Dear Sir,

At Mr Delleker's request that I should state to you, what the deficiency of my Bullion fund in Silver, may be, in order to the more efficient working of my Department of the Mint, I beg to state, that as nearly as I can estimate it, I have about \$30,000 in fine Silver; & that this amount should be nearly or quite doubled, in order to make more rapid returns to the Treasurer to meet the Demand for coin & fine bars, with as little delay as possible.

Very truly yours

Jas C Booth

M. T. R.

J. C. Boothe
M & R
U. S. Mint

\$30,000 addition
to the Silver bullion
fund of the Mint
required.

Recd

Feb 21/70

Rec Feb 26/70

Cairo Ills Feb 23^d 1870

U.S. Assayers Office D.C.

Mr ———— Dr Sir. I enclose a chunk of
mineral, and am anxious to know just
what it is. Can you please inform me? Where
this came from, near here, there exists large
quantities. Hoping to hear from you soon
I am very resp.

A M Austin

Contains 79 per cent. lead.
no silver.

A. M. Austin
Cairo, Ill.

Sends Specimen
of Galena

ansd. Nov 1/70

United States Senate Chamber.

Washington, ^{ny} Feb. 24 1870.

Dear Sir.

My attention has been attracted to some statements in the public prints, as to the prevalence of counterfeits among the small coin circulation.

Will you favor me with your views as to the proportion of counterfeits found among the small coins, and the number found among the small notes?

For further use I presume you will be able to give me more information upon this subject than can be had by any other public official, and if you think proper I shall be glad to hear from you upon it.

Truly Yours &c

Hon. Jas. Potter, Dir. of Mint.

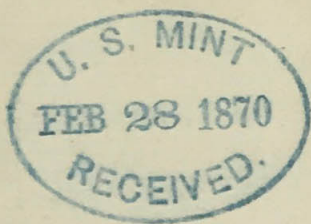
John A. B. [Signature]

Sanford Scott
US Senate

Inquires probable
proportion of Commu-
-nications in Senate
Coin Circulation.

Ans. Feb 28/70.

Rec^d Feb 25.



Treasury Department.

February 26th 1870

Sir:

I Enclose herewith a copy of a letter of the Danish Minister resident in this City, who desires to obtain for the Cabinet of the Danish Government, a collection of the medals in bronze which have been struck by the Government of the United States. The printed Circular containing the list of medals to be obtained at the Mint has been transmitted to the Danish Minister, who will correspond with you in reference thereto; and I will thank you to furnish him such medals as he may select for the Copenhagen Collection, at the actual cost thereof.

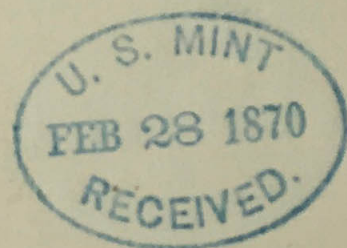
I desire also to call your attention to the five medals mentioned in the letter of the Danish Minister, now in possession of the Danish Government, a portion of which do not seem to be comprised in the Collection at the Mint, with the suggestion
that

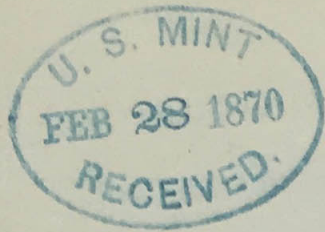
5. That copies may be obtained, if you think it desirable to do
so.

Very Respectfully,
Geo. S. Brintwell,
Secretary of the Treasury

Hon James Pollock
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia Pa







Copy.

Danish Legation.

Washington. D.C.

February 23d. 1870.

My dear Mr Secretary.

I take the liberty to put in writing the request, of which I spoke to you yesterday, and for the furtherance of which you kindly promised me to do what is possible.

Among the scientific collection of Copenhagen we possess a very complete one of coins & medals from different countries and different ages. The United States are, however, but slightly represented: there being only, in the possession of the collection, five medals struck here in honor of national events, namely ¹two in honor of Washington (1790 & 1805) ²one in honor of Admiral Preble (1804) ³one in commemoration of the outlet from Lake Erie to the Atlantic (1826) & ⁴one on account of the Paxton Exhibition building (1852). The director of our Cabinet of Medals, therefore, is very anxious of acquiring American medals and I am instructed

to exert myself in this matter.

I understand that the Philadelphia Mint most likely possessed all the coins of such medals, and I suppose that the authorization of your Department, will at any rate, be wanted for the manufacturing of copies. The fund of the Copenhagen collection of medals being only a small one, copies in bronze and without any covers enhancing the cost, would answer to the purpose and be perfectly satisfactory. Hence the request I beg leave to make is this, that you will kindly inform me of the proper steps to take in order to acquire for the Danish Government the medals struck by authority of the United States Government, and furthermore, that you will grant the permission for the coinage in bronze of so many medals as I would be enabled to order when I have learned the number and the prices of the various medals in existence of the kind alluded to. I remain, dear Mr Secretary,

Very Respectfully

Your obedient servant

(signed)

F. Bille

Danish Minister Resident.

Sec'y Treasury

Desires certain
Medals furnished
to the Danish
Legation at Wash-
ington.

Correspondence
U. S. Mint
also of
Branch Mints.

February 1870



Mr. Knox will consider
whether the request of
Mr. Bille can be granted
or not accordingly.
G. S. P.

U. S. Treasury of the United States.



CASH DIVISION,

Washington City 27 1870.

Sir - I forward you this day - per Adams Express -

Spurious Gold and Silver Coins -

✓ 74 pieces of \$2 ⁵⁰	105.
✓ 6 " 1	6.
✓ 23 " 50¢	11.50
✓ 263 " 25¢	65.75

\$268.25

These pieces having been delivered to me as having been lately found in the Slop of the Medical Storekeeper in this City, with a request that the

proper disposition be made
of them, I now forward the
same to you, and desire that
they be Examined to ascertain whether
they contain any gold or silver;
that if anything of value is found,
the amount thereof be placed to my
Credit in General Account with the
Assistant Treasurer of the United States,
at Philadelphia; that ^{on the whole if worthless} the residue
be destroyed, and a Certificate
of such destruction be sent
me, in order that I may
show that I have made
the proper disposition of the
spurious Coins.

Very Respectfully
Hon J. A. Pollock
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia Pa
J. A. Pollock
Treasurer

U. S. Treasurer
Washington D. C.

Send by Express
\$268²⁵ in Spurious
Gold and Silver coins
for Examination and
destruction.

Am^d Feb. 26/70
(Destroyed)



Mint of the United States,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, 24 Feb. 1870

Hon. James Pollock

Director of the U. S. Mint

Dear Sir,

In order to give a full and reliable answer to the questions proposed by the Treasury Department, relative to the amount of Deposits of Gold and Silver at the Mint, and to the costs of refining the same, I have entered into a minute investigation of the various items embraced in the questions, and of their quantities and costs.

The deposits of Gold from July 1869 to Jan. 1870, inclusive, are presented in Schedule A., which exhibits the deposits of each month from whatever source. From these are deducted the deposits of coin, which were not refined by acid, & those received from the N. Y. Assay Office. The gold parted from the Silver deposits of each month, being added to the remainder, the sum represents the total amount of gold refined by acid

acid in each month. The numbers represent the number of ounces gross, standard, and, in the sum, also of pure gold.

Schedule B exhibits the Deposits of Silver Bullion in the U. S. Mint, for each month. The 1st line under each month shows the amount deposited for half dollars, and the 2nd line that deposited for Dollars and fine bars.

To this sum is added the Silver ^(4th line) allowed the Depositor in Gold Deposits, & this sum represents the total amount of Silver deposited (5th line). The amount received from the N. Y. Assay Office, (line 6th), being deducted from the total, leaves the amount deposited in the Mint. The numbers given represent the gross and standard weights. The total of deposits, both gross and standard, of the Assay Office & of the Mint, are more briefly collocated in Schedule C. for the 7 months, July 1869 to Jan. 1870, inclusive.

Refining Gold by Acid, or Parting. The following costs of materials and labor, actually expended in refining gold, are deduced from actual weighings, and from
prices

Mint of the United States,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, _____ 186—

prices paid. They are generally given in excess of the truth, in order that we may be certain that the government shall not lose by an insufficient charge to the Depositor for refining gold. I present them in detail, in order to show the reliability of the conclusion to which I have been led.

Total cost of Refining gold from July 1869 to January 1870, inclusive, seven months.

Total amount refined

Standard weight	Gross weight	Weight of pure Gold
63,104.46 oz.	69,914.35 oz.	56,795.96 oz.

Total of Silver contained and added, about 150,000 oz. St^d

Materials used, and their cost

16,300 lbs. Parting acid	@ $11\frac{1}{2}$ cts. =	\$ 1874.50
120 bushels Salt	@ 55 cts.	66.00
3500 lbs. Lehigh Zinc	@ 10 cts	350.00
2700 " Oil of Vitriol	@ $2\frac{3}{4}$	74.25
Carried over		<u>\$ 2364.75</u>

Brought over		\$ 2364.75
Six tons Coal	@ $7\frac{50}{100}$	45.00
24 Black lead pots = 1440 lbs	@ 8 cts	115.20
Fluxes		77.25
Steam, heat and drying		84.00
Labor 4 hands for 154 days	@ 3.00	462.00
Total extreme cost. —		<u>\$ 3148.20</u>

By comparison of this sum of expenditure for refining with the weights of metal refined, it results that our cost of refining has been for the last seven months at the rate of:

5 cents (exactly $4\frac{989}{1000}$ cts.) per ounce Standard Gold

$4\frac{1}{2}$ cents (exactly $4\frac{502}{1000}$ cts) per ounce Gross of Gold

The same elements enable^{us} to determine approximately the cost of refining silver, since there was refined at the same time 150,000 oz. of Standard silver, with a variation of not more than 5000 oz., more or less, but probably nearer 155,000 oz. The reason for this lack of precision is that the exact amount of silver in the gold

5

Mint of the United States,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, _____ 186—

in the Gold deposits was not determined, nor the exact standard of the Silver added for refining. Taking 150,000 oz. Stand^d as the basis, Silver Refining costs

2 cents (exactly $2\frac{99}{1000}$ cts) pr. oz. Standard

The rates thus determined are independent of the costs of previously melting, fluxing and assaying deposits, for which special charges are made.

Refining Silver and Preparing it for Coinage.

In the operations of the Mint, the demand for Fine Silver bars is amply met. For by reference to Schedule C it will be observed that the Standard exceeds the Gross weight by some 2,300 oz. for the 7 months, and also 2,800 oz. for the 6 months previously. Jan. to June 1869 inclusive, so that for the whole 13 months, there was a surplus of fine silver. For the 7 months, July 1869 to Jan. 1870, inclusive, the surplus of fine silver, resulting from gold refining, was upwards of 10,000 ounces.

It is true that we were put to some especial expense of refining silver during the past Summer, but an inspection of the numbers tabulated at the foot of Schedule C. will exhibit the reason of this.

In the deposits of silver received from the N.Y. Assay Office for coinage, the deficiency of fine silver required to make up coin, was from January to August, 1869, inclusive, 69,378. oz. . . By the close of the year, the Office (N.Y.) had so far remedied this action, that the amount of deficiency was only over 30,000 oz., & by the close of January, 1870, it was less than 14,000 oz. Nevertheless, the large deficiency of nearly 70,000 oz. obliged us to undertake the special refining of silver, to the amount of some 30,000 oz. in order to meet the deficiency. The cost of doing this necessarily fell upon the Government, because the Depositor had been paid in N.Y. without reference to the cost of refining by acid.

There is again another source of unnecessary expense in refining silver, which might and I trust will be obviated

Mint of the United States,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, _____ 186—

obviated. It arises from the fact that a considerable amount of Silver has been received by us from the N. Y. Assay Office, which has proved unfit for coinage, altho' sometimes of a high degree of fineness, in consequence of the presence of metals &c (i.e. sulphuret of antimony). To prepare such for coinage, we have been obliged to refine this by fluxing, at an expense to the Government, besides a certain loss of precious metal, because the depositor has been long since paid, & there is no remedy for it. This expenditure should be avoided by making a deposit fit for coinage, so far as to remove sources of brittleness, and charging the depositor with the cost, — or, if the cost of so preparing the metal can be fairly estimated beforehand, the depositor should be charged for it, and this amount should be credited to the Mint, if such deposit be shipped to the Mint for coinage. In this last estimate, some allowance should be made for probable wastage, consequent upon refining metal, unfit for coinage.

I would here append a few remarks on the whole subject of refining, as above presented;

1. The above rate of 5 cts. pr. oz. is in currency; while we charge 5 cts. in gold, which will fully cover possible wastage in refining gold, and other possible omissions of items. If we return to a specie basis for circulation, the prices of materials & labor will be proportionately reduced, so that the above charge of 5 cents, will in all probability be still a full compensation for cost.

2. There is also a fair probability that the above costs of refining will be reduced, by a modification of the ordinary nitric process.

3. It has been generally assumed that all other costs of refining are double the cost of nitric acid, whereas the above detailed statement, altho' rather above than below the precise truth, shows that these other costs are not 100 pr. ct. more, but not over 68 pr. ct. more than the cost of Parting acid

Very truly yours

J. C. Booth

m. & R.

Schedule AGold Deposits at the U.S. Mint from July 1859 to Jan'y 1870 inclusiveGold Deposits.Silver PartedJuly.

Gross Wght. Stand Wght. Pure Gold Stand Wt. Pure.

Total Deposits

10.895 91 9.719 27

1904.13 1713.72

Deduct Deposits of Coin

574 36 574 36

10.321 55 9.144 91

Add Gold parted from Silver

121 91 135 46

Total Gold Parted - July -

10.443 46 9.280 37 8.352 33

August.

Total Deposits

11.545 59 10.795 11

1299.11 1169.20

Deduct Coin

3.130 96 3.051 88

8.414 63 7.643 23

Add Gold parted from Silver

44 67 49 63

Total Gold parted - August -

8.459 30 7.692 86 6.923 57

September

Total Deposits

13.472 59 12.866 22

1399.04 1259.14

Deduct Coin

2.989 88 3.035 45

" Gold from Assay Off.

1.729 32 1.915 00

8.753 39 7.915 77

Add Gold from Silver

39 36 43 74

Total Gold Parted - September -

8.792 75 7.959 51 7.163 56

October.

Total Deposits -

14.732 86 13.867 63

1614.84 1453.36

Deduct Coin

488 52 488 52

14.244 34 13.419 11

Add Gold from Silver

1 33 1 48

Gold Parted October

14.245 67 13.420 59 12.078 53

November.

72

Total Deposits

Gross Wght	Stand. Wght	Pure Gold	Silver Parted	Pure.
16.355 38	15.138.94		2224.93	2002.44

Deduct Coin

484 43 484 43

" Gold from Apay Office

3.946 59 3.974 05

11.924 36 10.680 46

Add Gold from Silver

2 68 2 98

Total Gold parted November

11.927 03 10.683 44 9.615 10

20

December.

Total Deposits

12.447 01 11.693 39

1216.38 1094.74

Deduct Coin

809 50 809 50

11.637 51 10.883 89

Add Gold from Silver

594 6.60

Total Gold Parted December

11.643 45 10.890 49 9.801 44

January 1870-

Total Deposits

22.105 12 22.507.06

1540.35 1386.32

Deduct Coin

2417 69 2417 69

" N.Y. Apay Off. Deposits

15321 25 16.952 65

4366 18 3.136 72

Add Gold from Silver

36 51 40 57

4.402 69 3 177 29 2.859 56

Total Parted for 7 months

69.914 35 63.104 46 56.793 96

Average fineness of the 69.914.35 .812

Schedule "A"

Schedule B.
from July 1869 to Feb. 1870.

	<u>Cross Wght.</u> ozs.	<u>Stand: Wght.</u> ozs.	
July	8192.01 45534.05 53726.06 1713.72 55.439.78 32067.90 23,371.88	8407.16 45154.54 53,561.70 1904.13 55.465.83 30.541.84 24.923.99	Deposited for Half Dollars " " " Fine Bars
Silver parted			
N.Y. ap.			
August	39.623.85 46.153.60 85777.45 11669.20 86946.65 69808.70 17137.95	42.097.63 41.862.68 83960.31 1299.11 85.259.42 66996.52 18.262.90	
Silver parted			
N.Y. ap.			
September	73879.73 65285.20 139164.93 1259.14 140424.07 127106.70 13317.37	75305.65 66203.87 141509.52 1399.04 142908.56 128724.80 14183.76	
N.Y. ap.			
October	109615.90 101081.85 210697.75 1453.36 212151.11 156540.70 55610.41	108768.66 100502.42 209271.08 1614.84 210885.92 156920.91 53965.01	
N.Y. ap.			
November	36973.83 54217.91 91191.74 2002.44 93194.18 70315.30 22878.88	40356.98 50787.19 91144.17 2224.93 93369.10 70406.46 2.2962.64	
N.Y. ap.			
December	47922.05 68497.69 116.419.74 1094.74 117514.48 90858.25 26656.23	49530.10 70454.42 119984.52 1216.38 121200.90 92960.65 28240.25	
N.Y. ap.			
January	3850.45 54020.50 57870.95 1386.32 59257.27 39326.00 20931.27	3786.48 55706.27 59492.75 1540.35 61033.10 41309.64 19723.46	
N.Y. ap.			

Silver Deposits

Schedule C

N.Y. Assay Off.

U.S. Mint.

	<u>Gross Wght.</u>		<u>Stand Wght.</u>		<u>Gross Wght.</u>		<u>Stand Wght.</u>	
	ozs	dec.	ozs	dec.	ozs	dec.	ozs	dec.
1869								
July.	320	67 90	305	41 84	233	71 88	249	23 99
August.	69	808 70	66	996 52	171	37 95	182	62 90
September	127	106 70	128	724 80	133	17 37	141	83 76
October	156	540 70	156	920 91	55	610 41	53	965 01
November.	70	315 30	70	406 46	22	878 88	22	962 64
December.	90	858 25	92	960 65	26	656 23	28	240 25
1870								
January	39	326 00	41	309 64	20	931 27	19	723 46
	58,6	023 55	58	7,860 82	179	903 99	182	262 01
1869								
Jan'y to June incl.	116.00	7. 65	112.63	7. 20	106,542.04		109.34	2. 16

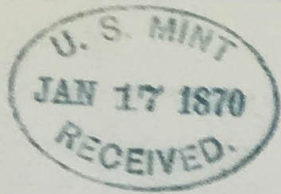
Deposits Received from N. Y. Assay Office.

1869	<u>Gross Wght.</u>		<u>Stand. Wght.</u>		<u>Excess of Base M.</u>	<u>Fine Silver Req^d</u>
Jan'y to Aug. incl	217	884 25	210	175 56	7708.69	69378.21
Jan'y to Dec. incl	662	705 20	659	188 38	3516.82	31651.38
1869 Jan'y to 1870 Jan. incl	702	031 20	700	498 02	1533.18	13798.62

J. C. Boothe, M & R
U. S. Mint

Reports Amt Gold
& Silver refined to
Jan 1 July/69 to 31st
Jan'y/70. - amt of
charges rec'd from
depositors - & cost
of the process. (In
reply to Sec'y Treas'y
of Feb. 3/70)

Rec^d Feb. 25/70



United States Assay Office
New York Jan 15. 1870

Hon James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Dear Sir,

Please accept
my thanks for your letter and enclosure.
There must be a letter from the Comptroller
or Secretary on the subject. - under the
circumstances it will be best to
postpone further consideration of
the subject until I can see you
+ also the Comptroller.

I have completed my
examination here + expect to leave for
St. Louis at noon today

The Miller & Reimer, annual
settlement is very satisfactory.

Very Truly Yours,

H. Robinson

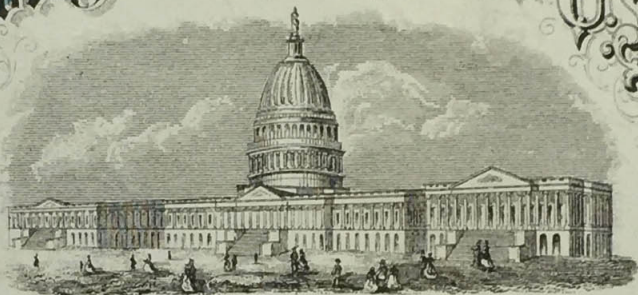
U. S. Assay Office
New York

Dr H R Linderman has completed his examination of affairs at the Assay Office, and will leave for Lititz





Early First Congress



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Washington, D. C. Jan 10th 1870

Hon James Pollock

Director of the Mint

Dear Sir

While in the city
I deposited some South Carolina
gold belonging to Hon S. L. Hope of
that State for which I left the receipt
in Philadelphia. It was to be coined into
\$20 gold pieces

Hon Hope wishes the proceeds
sent to him by Adams Express. I enclose

his address as handed me. Regretting that
I omitted to call in person for the results
of the deposit I am

Yours very truly
Wm D Halling

Wm W D Kelly
Washington D.C

Relation to some South Carolina
gold deposited by him

The rules of the Mint requires
that the gold Receipt should
be presented here endorsed by
you before we would be per-
mitted to pay the money



Saltillo, Miss

Jan'y 18th / 870

Hon James Pollock

Director U.S. Mint

Philadelphia Pa

Sir

I am

just in receipt of your Letter with the accompanying Circular of instructions — & in accordance with its specifications send you per Express the Bar of Silver before mentioned. Coin it please and send to me its value, as such, after deducting charges &c &c.

Send please C.O.D.

Very respectfully

Your Obt Servt

James W. Armstrong
Exp Agt

James W. Armstrong
Saltillo Miss

Sends Silver bar for coinage

Mr Wk ok

No Silver in this Bar no—
thing but zinc, we gave it
back to Adams ex co.

Wk,

Rec day 17 ~ 1870

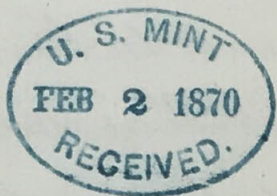
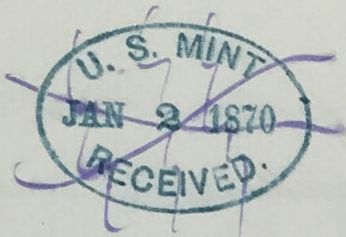
Relating to the fiscal year ending June 30. 1870.

	Report of Hon. Mr. Dawes.	Estimate of Sept 27/69	Estimate of Jan. 7./70.
Salaries of Officers + Clerks.	25 700	28 000	34 200
Wages of Workmen	40 000	40 000	68 000
Incidental + Con Exp + Repair	50 000	100 000	44 000
	115 700	168 000	146 200
Superintendent,	4 500	4 500	4 500
Assayer,	3 000	3 000	4 500
Melter + Refiner,	3 000	3 000	4 500
Deputy Treasurer,	3 000	3 000	4 500
Assistant Assayer,	2 000	2 000	3 000
Five Clerks	* 10 200		
Six Clerks..		12 500	
Five Clerks..			13 200
	25 700	28 000	34 200

† authorized Nov. 6. 1869.

* Includes \$1800 for a clerk, where the office is vacant.
and excludes \$1900 in the case of a clerk transferred
from the Independent Treasury by authority of the
Secy. of Treas'y, besides \$400 increase of salaries,
(See Estimates Sept. 27. 1869 for particulars.)

United States Assay Office
New York, February 1st 1870.



Sir:

I have rec^d your letter of 31st ult., and send you, in reply thereto, copies of correspondence on file in this office, with a few explanations.

The paper marked A. contains an extract from Mr. Dunning's letter of Nov 1/69 and the Acting Sec^y's answer dated Nov 15th, in which he requests the Sup^{te} to forward an estimate for 1871 in place of the former one dated Sept 27/69.

This duty was postponed by the former Sup^{te} and as a consequence the amended estimates did not go forward until Jan 7th 1870, the earliest period, at which I found time to prepare them.

I send you, herewith, a copy of these amended estimates; and as I have explained, in the letter embodying them, the reasons for introducing other subjects than those referred to, by the Sec^y in his letter of the 15th Nov., I need not repeat those explanations in this communication.

As Mr. Knox was here on the 4th ult., on official business, I asked him to do me the favor to report to the Sec^y that the Amended Estimates should be forw^d that week. He requested me to send them to the Sec^y, under cover to him. I supposed

he would see that they went to the proper Comtee & would secure for them the earliest consideration, and therefore when I transmitted them on the 7th of Jan^y, I acted according to Mr. Knox's advice.

Last Friday, at the instance of my fellow officers and the approval of Judge Folger, I waited upon Mr. Dawes, the Chairman of the House Comtee on appropriations, and pointed out the errors in the report of his Committee. He informed me that his Comtee had not received my Estimates and had been obliged to do without them: and advised me to have them sent to Mr. Morrill, Ch^r of the Senate Com on Apprs. The same day, I had an interview with the Sec^y of the Treasury, who had only seen my Estimates ^{Jan^y 26/15} ~~two~~ days previous: of course the House Comtee should not be blamed for acting without any reference to what they had not before them, and the Sec^y of the Treasury did not have them in his possession until after the Comtee made their report. The paper marked B, exhibits the estimates as reported by the House Com., those forwarded by the late Sup^{at} and those prepared & forwarded by me. It also shows how the different aggregates for salaries are made up

in accordance with the estimates.

Now inquire, what effect will the adoption of Mr. Dawes bill have upon the operations and the efficiency of the Assay Office?

It is evident from a glance at the items in his report as compared with those in our estimates, that we would be left without the means of paying our workmen, and injustice would be done to the Officers & Clerks. He has allowed \$6000 more for Inc. Exp. than I ask; and my estimates are \$21,800 less in the aggregate than are the estimates of Sept 169, notwithstanding provision is made for the increase in salaries, which has been recommended to the Secretary for his approval, in order to procure the requisite legislation.

I shall be happy to furnish whatever other information you may desire in answer to your letter, if the points are not fully covered.

Very respectfully
Yours Obedt Servt
Geo. W. Edelman,
Sup^t. ad-interim

* I consider all the trouble, caused us, has arisen from this fact.

N.Y. Assay Office
(G. W. Edelman)

Explanatory of
the Annual Esti-
mates for 1871.



- copy - United States Assay Office
New York January 7th 1870

Sir:

In reply to your letter of the 15th Nov. 69, to the late Superintendent, "requesting him to furnish an estimate for the year ending Decr 30, 1871, in place of that previously sent, increasing the amount for wages of workmen, and decreasing proportionally the appropriation of incidental & contingent expenses," I have the honor to submit the following statement:

At the time the estimates were transmitted to the Director of the Mint for his approval, the calculations were based upon the then existing state of things.

According to these estimates, the amount required to be appropriated for the support of this Office was, for Salaries of Officers & Clerks \$28,000.
for Wages of Workmen 40,000.
for Inc. & Cont. Exp.^s & Repairs 100,000.
Total \$168,000.

Since furnishing these estimates, events

have transpired, in connection with this Office, which make it necessary to remodel them.

On the 6th Nov. last, the Salary of the Deputy Treasurer was increased \$1,500.

On the 16th of the same month, application was made through the Treasurer of the Office, Judge Folger, for an increase of the Salaries of the Weigh Clerk, the Accountant, the Paying Teller, & the Bar Clerk, amounting in all to 2,500.

On the 28th December last, the Asst. Assayer's bond was transmitted to the department, with the request on his behalf for an increase of salary of 1,000.

Besides the foregoing items, the Assayer & the Melter & Refiner have just claims for an increase of their Salaries, which I have understood, have been so regarded by the department. In my opinion, this increase should be at least \$1,500. each, making together the sum of 3,000.

Total increase granted & asked for, \$ 8,000.

By the former estimate, the amount asked

Extract from a letter of Mr. Drumm, late Superintendent of the Assay Office, New York, to the Secretary of the Treasury, dated Nov. 1st, 1869, in regard to the practice of charging a portion of the expenses for personal service at this Office to the Ac. of Incidental & Contingent Expenses.

"A doubt having been expressed by our Deputy Treasurer, Mr. Edelman, as to the propriety of charging to the account of Incidental & Contingent Expenses any portion of our expenses for personal service, I have decided to refer the matter for the decision of the department."

In reply, the following letter was received:

Treasury Department.
Nov. 15th, 1869.

Sir:

I have received your letter of the 4th (10th) instant relative to the appropriations & the estimates for the Assay Office.

In reply it is recommended that the change proposed by Mr. Edelman be adopted immediately after the close of the fiscal year for which appropriations are already made, and you are requested to forward an estimate for the year ending June 30th, 1871, in place of that already received, increasing the amount for wages of workmen, & decreasing proportionally the appropriation of "Incidental & Contingent Expenses".

Very Respectfully,

Wm A. Richardson,
Acting Secretary of the Treasury.

Geo. F. Drumm, Esq.
Supt. U. S. Assay Office,
New York.

for Salaries of Officers & Clerks was \$28,000.
this was \$1,800 in excess of the amount required 1,800.
leaving \$26,200.

To this must be added the foregoing increase of 8,000.

Showing the amount required for Salaries \$34,200.

I trust that the Hon. Secretary will respond favorably to the wishes of the above-named Officers & Clerks for an increase of their salaries by securing the necessary legislation, as it is of the utmost importance to retain the services of skilled, experienced, & faithful servants of the Government.

I would most respectfully recommend that the law, authorizing the new salaries, provide for their taking effect on the 1st January, 1870, as there is a sufficient surplus in the Salary Fund of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1870, to meet the increase proposed, & therefore no additional appropriation will be required for this purpose.

In the former estimate, the amt. asked for Wages of Workmen was \$40,000. Under the arrangement for charging bills for personal services to this A/c., instead of the A/c. of Inc. & Cont. Expi.³, as directed in your letter of the 15th Nov. /69, it will require an additional sum of 28,000.
Total Amt. required for Wages. 68,000.

In the former estimate, the amount asked for Inci-
 dental & Contingent Expenses was \$100,000.
 From this deduct the sum added to the
 pay of Wages of Workmen as above \$28,000.
 & for an overestimate of the amount re-
 quired to pay the current expenditures
 of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871 28,000. 56,000.
 Total amt. required for Inc. & Cont. Exp.^s \$44,000.

Recapitulation:

The amount required to be appropriated, therefore,
 for the support of the Office, will be

I. For Salaries of Officers & Clerks	\$34,200.
II. For Wages of Workmen	68,000.
III. For Incidental & Contingent Expenses & Repairs	<u>44,000.</u>
Total.	<u>\$146,200.</u>

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully,

Your Obedt. Servant,

Geo. W. Edelman,

Supt. ad interim.

To
 Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell,
 Secretary of the Treasury,
 Washington.

R. B. ALLEN.

H. M. CLIFFORD.

ALLEN & CLIFFORD,

Importers, Dealers and Commission Merchants,

No. 41 NORTH FRONT STREET.

Drugs, Chemicals, Dye Stuffs.

Philadelphia, January 5th 1870

Hon. Jas Pollock

Director of the United States Mint at Philadel

Dear Sir

Your valued favor of the 18th Decr has lain over on account of the desire of the writer to see you personally, but has not as yet had the opportunity. We are the direct agents of the manufacturer of the acids offered the Mint, and the writer's long experience in that business enables us ^{to} know exactly the grade of acid required, and we would guarantee all sent to the Mint to be of the purest kind and up to full strength. Under the circumstances we would ask a fair competition, and a trial to assure you that the goods are as represented & should feel obliged to you for any consideration you may think our application worth.

We quote Nitric Acid 40° 11½ cts

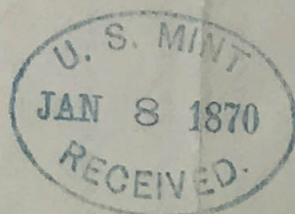
Aqua Fortis 40° 10 "

Oil Vitriol 66° 2¾ cts.

Very Resp. Yours.
Allen & Clifford

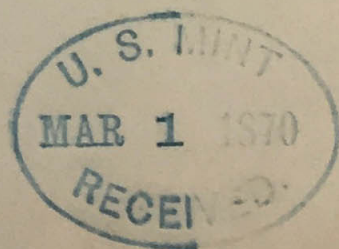
Allen & Clifford
41 North Front st
Philadelphia

Relation to "Acids" for the
Mint



E. J. Renwick
New York

Inquires about his
letter of Feb. 2/70 in
reference to Miller's
patent for refining
Gold by chlorine gas.





34 Beach St. New York
Feb 28th 1870

Hon Jas. Pollock
Director U. S. Mint - Phila.

Dear Sir

On the 2^d inst., I
addressed to you a letter
respecting Millers process
of refining gold by means
of Chlorine Gas. as no reply
has been received, I write to
ask whether the letter was
received, and if so that
you will be pleased to inform
me what if any action has
been had in the matter.

Yours respectfully

C. S. Fenwick

Rec^d Feb. 26/70

Treasury Department

Bureau of Engraving and Printing

25th February 1870.

James Pollock Esquire
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia, Pa
Dear Sir,

I would be very much obliged
to you if you will send me Two (2) pounds
of Pure Soapstone for the use of this Bureau.

Very Respectfully
Geo. B. McEntee.

Chief of Bureau

Geo B. McEntee

Mint of the United States,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, 1. March. 1890

M^r Geo. B. M^r Carter

Chief of Bureau of Engraving & Printing

Treasury Dept, Washington D.C.

To

Dr.

To Twenty four ounces of fine Silver }
of 999½ fine. @ \$1.39 in fractional }
Silver Coin per oz. Pure Silver }

\$ 33.35

Geo. B. McCartee, Esq
Chief Bureau Engraving
& Printing.
Treasury Dept

Orders 2th fine
dup silver.

24 oz sent by
Express March 14/70.

Recd Feb 26/70



Treasury Department,

February 24th, 1870.

Sir:

You will please furnish the Department, at your earliest convenience, with "a statement showing the names, designation, compensation, date of appointment and Act under which paid, of all the employees of the Mint, including Workmen, Adjusters and Laborers."

I am very respectfully

Yours S. B. Smith

Secretary

James Pollock Esq.

Director U.S. Mint

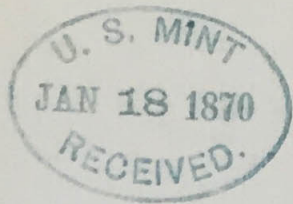
Philadelphia Penna.

Secy Treasury

Wants Statement
of names, designa-
-tion, compensation of
all employees in the
Mint, including
workmen, adjusters and
laborers, and the Act
authorizing their ap-
-pointment.

Am^d Mch 7/70





United States Assay Office
New York, January 17th 1870.

Sir:

I send enclosed my
requisition, upon the Secretary of the
Treasury, for Twenty thousand dollars,
viz:

For Salaries of Officers & Clerks	\$ 5000.
" Wages of Workmen	5000.
" Inc. & Con. Expenses	10000.
	<u>\$ 20000.</u>

I would respectfully request that it
may be forwarded with your approval.

Very respectfully,
Yours obt. Servt
Chas. W. Edelman
Sup^{dt} ad-interim.

Hon. James Pollock
Director of the U.S. Mint.

U. S. Assay Office
New York

Requisition for
\$20.000





United States Assay Office
New York, Jan 4. 18th 1870.

Sir:

I would like to learn,
on what terms and in what manner,
your Treasurer disposes of the Mint
Sweeps.

We have 60 bbls for sale
and desire to know the names of
the Smelters, who are in the habit
of buying them.

Very respectfully,
Yours obt. Servt.
Chas. W. Edelman,
Sup^t. ad. interim.

Hon. James Pollock, }
Director of the U.S. Mint.

U. S. Assay Office
New York

Has 60 Bbls Sweeps,
and would like to dispose
of them



5552

Rec^d Jan 20/70

44

Treasury Department.

January 18th 1870.

Sir:

I transmit herewith a printed copy of "a bill revising the laws relative to the Mints, Assay Offices, and Coinage of the United States" which has been prepared under the supervision of Mr. Knox of this Department.

You are requested to examine this bill carefully, in company with the other officers of the Mint, and return it to this Department during the ^{next} ~~present~~ week, making such suggestions, and noting upon it in writing, such amendments, as you may think desirable.

Very Respectfully

Geo. B. Postnell,
Secretary of the Treasury

Hon James Pollock
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia Pa



Assay Office of the United States.
Treasurer's Department.

New York, Jan 18 1870

Hon James Pollock

Director of the U.S. Mint

Sir:

I would respectfully request
your attention to the following extracts
from the law, in relation to the Tax
on incomes, as applied to persons in
the service of the U.S. Government.

Viz:

U.S. Statutes, Vol. 13. page 478. Act of March 2^d
1867.

" That there shall be levied,
" collected, and paid annually, upon
" the gains, profits and income of
" every person residing in the U.S. +++
" a tax of 5% on the amount so derived

" over One Thousand dollars, +++++ And
 " the tax herein provided for shall be
 " assessed, collected, and paid upon the
 " gains, profits and income for the year
 " ending the 31st day of December next pre-
 " ceding the time for logging, collecting,
 " and paying said tax."

U. S. Statutes, Vol. 13, page 480. Act of March 2, 1867.

" That the Taxes on incomes herein
 " imposed, shall be levied on the 1st day of
 " March, and be due and payable on or
 " before the 30th day of April, in each year,
 " until and including the year eighteen
 " hundred and twenty, and no longer."

In the former enactment of March
 1867, the amount exempt from taxation
 was increased from \$600. to \$1000. Taking

effect from January 1. 1866; but the Tax upon Salaries to paid to Government employes, having been "deducted & withheld", on the monthly pay rolls, the amount of \$1000. exempt, could not be made available, till the 1st of March 1867. Thus for a period of fourteen months the Tax of 5% on \$400. amounting to \$20.00 was collected from those in the Service, not authorised by law, and not assessed upon the incomes of those not in the Service of the Government.

A similar error, in the present instance could be avoided, by ascertaining the construction of the law, as stated in the 2^d extract, as to the application of the words, "until and including

The year 1870. and no longer";

If they apply to the levying & collecting the tax for the year ending 31 December next preceeding the time for levying, collecting &c it is evident the tax expires by limitation on 31st December 1869. If on the contrary it was the spirit of The Law, that the year 1870, should contribute its tax, would it not imply the necessity of levying & collecting that tax, on or before the 30th April 1871?

In the event of a modification of the tax, during the present session, it would create embarrassment in the adjustment of our accounts if any unauthorised tax should

5.
be "deducted and withheld," from the
present time, until the passage
of such Act.

If you concur with
me in these views, I will thank you
to invite the attention of the Secretary
of the Treasury to the subject, for the
purpose of obtaining his decision in
regard to it, as early as practicable, so
that I may arrange for the payments
of the present month in accordance
therewith.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt. Servant.
Chas. W. Edelman,
Sup^{dt} ad-interim.

U.S. Assay Office
New York

In relation to the U.S.
"Income Tax" on Wages &
Salaries — for 1870





RECEIVED
JAN 21 1870
Treasurers Office

Johnstown. Jan²¹ / 74

Mr Boutwell:-

Please inform
me if in 1856, any nickel cents,
were coined, or issued.
and oblige

Cal L. King.

Johnstown,
Penn Co. Pa.
To Mr Boutwell,
Washington.
A. C.

N. 387.

C. F. Price
Johnstown Pa.
Jan, 20/21/70.

Desire to know if
any nickel cents were
coined or issued in
1856.



Treasury of the U. S.

January 21, 1870

Respectfully referred to the Hon. the

Director of the U. S. Mint

Philadelphia, Pa. for reply.

D. D. Linn
Treasurer U. S.



Treasury Department.

January 21st 1870

Sir:

I have received a letter from George H. Christian Prest of a Silver Mining Company in Philadelphia, who says he has been a large depositor of silver bullion in the Mint, and that recently he has been informed by the person in charge of the deposit room, that silver would not hereafter be received unless it was first cut up in pieces to suit the melting pots of the Mint. He states that the Mint has every convenience for cutting up this silver without waste - that it is a great inconvenience for him to do it, and that he is willing to pay for extra work of this kind, if required.

I call your attention to his statement with the request that if the Mint has a sufficient number of clerks and laborers to perform this work hereafter, without any very great inconvenience, that it may be performed, unless there is

Some

some particular objection to it.

Very Respectfully

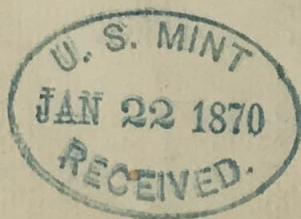
Geo. S. Postnell,
Secretary of the Treasury

Hon James Pollock
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia Pa.

Sec'y of Treasury

Upon Complaint of
Geo. St. Christian
desires that large
Silver buttons may
be cut up in the
Mint - for coinage -
if there be no in-
superable objection.

(am - Jan 24/70.)



New-York, *July 24* 1870.

Having received an
enquiry from one of our Paris
friends, we intrude upon your
kindness requesting you to send
us the last report of the U. S.
Mint. Our friend would also
like to know whether an estimate
has been made of the amount
of silver coin in circulation in
the United States — has its weight
not been reduced in 1853.²

Please excuse the trouble we give
you, and accept our thanks for
your answer. Yours respectfully
Wm. Offmann & Co.
James Pollock Esq
Director U. S. Mint, Philadelphia

L. M.

Equivalents & times
Silver Coins in
- circulation - & reduction
in weight in 1853.

1870



Invoice No. 4.

Statement of *Gold* Bullion transmitted to the UNITED STATES MINT,
for Coinage, pursuant to Act of March, 1855, by *Charles Edgar*
Treasurer of the UNITED STATES ASSAY OFFICE.

New York January 24th 1870

See Invoice # 3. Packed in Box No. 6.

BOXES No. — @ — CONTAINING 10 BARS.

Description.	Numbers.	Pieces.	Ounces.	dec.	Fineness.	Description.	Numbers.	Pieces.	Ounces.	dec.	Fineness.
<i>U. S. Bar (fine)</i>	<i>3215</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1325</i>	<i>988</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>146</i>					
<i>Mixed Coin</i>	<i>3227</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1702</i>	<i>902½</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>151</i>					
<i>Debased Coin</i>	<i>3238</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>4713</i>	<i>808</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>7</i>					
<i>Mixed Coin</i>	<i>3204</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3043</i>	<i>895</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>-2</i>					
<i>Do</i>	<i>3326</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2417</i>	<i>898½</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>					
<i>Swiss Bar</i>	<i>3350</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>537</i>	<i>993</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>8</i>					
<i>Do</i>	<i>3373</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1704</i>	<i>986</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>9</i>					
<i>Mixed Coin</i>	<i>3205</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2246</i>	<i>897</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>4</i>					
<i>Do</i>	<i>3493</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1508</i>	<i>882½</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>5</i>					
<i>Geo. Amal.</i>	<i>3514</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>867</i>	<i>904½</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>150</i>					

10 19122 =

Stand. Wt. ^{ounces, dec.} 190.0298 3535.42

Less Coinage 17.68

Net Value \$ 3517.74

Jan. 24 1870

Invoice ~~it~~

United States A.O.N.Y.

1870



U. S. Assay Office

New York, Jan. 25th 1870.

Dear Sir:

I will be much obliged to you, if you will transmit to me a few copies of your last Annual Report to the Secretary of the Treasury.

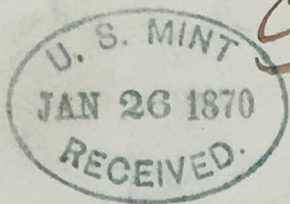
Very respectfully
Truly Yours
Chas. W. Edelman
Supt. ad. int.

Hon. James Pollock,
Director U. S. Mint

U S Assay Office
New York

Wants a few copies of
Director's last annual
Report





Treasury Department,

January 25, 1870.

Sir:

By virtue of the authority contained in the 12th Section of the Act of Aug. 6. 1846, entitled "An Act to provide for the better organization of the Treasury and for the collection, safe keeping, transfer and disbursement of the public moneys" you are hereby directed from time to time at least once in each month to make in connection with the Naval officer of the port of Philadelphia and the Director of the U. S. Mint of that city, a careful examination of the books, accounts and moneys on hand in the office of the U. S. Assistant Treasurer at Philadelphia with a view to ascertain and report the exact condition of said office.

This examination should be made on such day or days as the Committee may select and should be conducted in the following manner:

Upon presenting yourselves at the office

of the Asst. Treasurer at the beginning of business on any given day you will ask him to deliver to you the keys of the vaults; you will then count the money in possession of the Cashier or Paying Teller for current business purposes, keeping a carefully prepared memorandum of the same. Having ascertained the exact amount in his possession you will direct him to keep a similar memorandum and to add the receipts for that day and so from day to day should the examination occupy a longer time. The next step will be to make an exact count of all the currency and coin in the vaults, the latter by weight. Having ascertained the total amount of funds in the vaults you will ask the Cashier or Teller to furnish you the amount received since the commencement of the examination which you will add to the amount in his hands at that time as per the memorandum above referred to and the total cash in his hands should equal the amount of such memorandum. The

aggregate amount of all the cash having been ascertained an examination of the different accounts kept in the office should show its liabilities to agree with its assets.

As soon as the money in the vaults shall have been counted you will please tie it up in packages or bags and place your seal upon them. These packages or bags are not to be opened unless absolutely necessary. When therefore you make your next monthly examination it will be necessary only to count such portions of the funds as do not bear your seal. Should you in making these examinations need any assistants you are hereby authorized to procure them from the Custom House Employees by request upon the Collector, taking particular care that they are good and reliable men adapted to this kind of business.

These suggestions are not intended to preclude
the adoption of other additional ones which
may occur to you.

Very respectfully

Geo. I. Bantwell

Secretary.

E. O'Meara Goodrich, Esq.

Surveyor Customs

Philadelphia

Pa.

H
12448

Treasury Department,

January 25th, 1870.

Sir:-

I have this day directed the Surveyor and Naval officer of the Port of Philadelphia to unite with you hereafter in conducting the examinations of the books, accounts and moneys in the office of the U. S. Asst. Treasurer of your City.

It may be well for me to add that this has been deemed advisable because of the requirements of the 12th Section of the Act of August 6th 1846.

I have embodied in the letters to the Gentlemen above referred to certain suggestions by which the Committee is to be guided in addition to those which may occur to it and enclose a copy for your information.

Wm. Jas. Pollack

Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia, Pa.

Very Respectfully

Geo. S. Fordwell
Secretary

Sec'y Treasury
(Boutwell)

Instructions for
Monthly Count &
Examination of funds
of Asst Treas. U.S.; in
conjunction with the
Naval Officer and
Surveyor of the Port.

Under Act of August 6, 1846
Section 17.





*Copy
AL*

Treasury Department,

Solicitor's Office

January 26th 1870.

Sir:

I have the honor to return herewith the papers referred to me on the 16th instant, for my opinion as to the respective powers of the Director and Treasurer of the Mint at Philadelphia, to appoint certain employees in that office. The Treasurer complains that the Director has appointed two persons in the Cashier's office and four persons in the office of weighing clerk, (the cashier and weigher being clerks appointed by him) and holds that being clerks and performing the duties of clerks, they should be appointed by him if by any one; while on the contrary the Director claims that they are not clerks and do not perform clerical duty, but render assistance simply as workmen and servants and so to be employed by him. Suppose the persons in question

are to be considered clerks, then the Director cannot appoint them, but the position taken by the Treasurer is not helped. By section 3, of the Act of January 10, 1837, the Director was empowered to appoint certain assistants therein named, and clerks for himself and the Treasurer whenever on representation made by him to the President the latter shall be of the opinion that such assistants or clerks are necessary. The Act of March 3, 1857 however, repealed so much of the second section of the Act of March 3, 1835, establishing Branch Mints, as vested the appointment of clerks of the Treasurer in the Superintendent thereof, and authorized the several Treasurers of the United States Mint, to appoint their own clerks, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury. It is true that the Act of 1857, repeals only the Act of 1835, and not Section 3, of the Act of 1837, under which the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia appointed Clerks for the Treasurer, and it might well be held that the Treasurers mentioned in the second clause of the former

Act applied only to Treasurers of the Branch Mints, but the reason for the change given in the preamble of the Act of 1851 applies equally to the parent Mint at Philadelphia, and should therefore be construed to apply to it. If then under such a construction the Treasurer of the Mint at Philadelphia can appoint his own clerks, he can only appoint such clerks as under the Act of 1837, the President shall deem necessary on the representation of the Director; or, in other words, he can do under the Act of 1837, only what the Director could do under the Act of 1837, that is fill up offices deemed necessary to be created by the President. This conclusion is irresistible because section 3, of the Act of 1837, is only so far repealed, if at all, as relates to the mere appointment to offices already created. The number of clerkships now established at Philadelphia under, and in compliance with the provisions of the Act of 1837 is six, as alleged by the Director, and this number is all that is provided for in the Act of 1866 establishing the compensation of clerks in the Mint at Philadelphia. The Treasurer cannot therefore appoint more than this number, until on the representation of the Director the President shall create the office.

But I think, as a matter of fact, the persons in question cannot be considered clerks, but workmen. The Director

alleges that they are employed by him as workmen and are so paid. This it seems to me is the criterion by which their status is to be determined. The duties which they perform, do not make them either workmen or clerks. A workman may be detailed to perform clerical duty, or vice versa, without changing his official designation and character.

I am therefore of opinion that the persons are rightly employed by the Director as workmen under the 4th Section of the Act of 1837, which gives to him the power to employ such workmen and servants in the Mint, as he shall from time to time find necessary.

I am, Very Respectfully,
E. C. Banfield,
Solicitor of the Treasury.

Hon. Geo. S. Boutwell,
Secretary of the Treasury.

E. C. Banfield
Solicitor of the Treasury
January 26th 1870.

Opinion relative to the
respective powers of the
Director and Treasurer
of the Mint at Philadelphia
to appoint certain employ-
ees in that office.



J.J.K.



Treasury Department.

January 24 1870.

Sir:

I transmit herewith a copy of the Opinion of the Solicitor under date of the 25th instant relative to the right of appointment of Clerks and Employee's in the office of the Treasurer of the Mint.

Very Respectfully

Wm. S. Washburn,
Secretary of the Treasury

Hon George Cypher
Treasurer of the Mint
Philadelphia Pa

Secy Treasury

Enclosing opinion of
the Solicitor of the
Treasury sustaining
the right of the Director
of the Mint to appoint
certain employees in
the Report Room and
Treasurer's office.



THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

The rules of this Company require that all messages received for transmission, shall be written on the message blanks of the Company, under and subject to the conditions printed thereon, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message.

THOS. T. ECKERT, Gen'l Sup't.,
New York.

WILLIAM ORTON, Pres't.,
O. H. PALMER, Sec'y, New York.

Dated

1890

Received at

To

Washington D.C.
Jan 29
Gen. L. H. ...
Director of the Mint
Please send original
or copy of Sherman's
and Mason's letter today

For Jay. Knox
Deputy Comptroller



THIS TELEGRAM HAS JUST BEEN RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE IN

WHERE ANY REPLY SHOULD BE SENT.

Direct Wire.

Mr. Jay Krot
Jan 29/70
H

Wants copy of letter from
Edelman & Mason -

Gazette Established 1850.
Chronicle " 1855.
Consolidated in - - 1865.

OLDEST PAPER

In the County,

—AND HAVING THE—

Largest Circulation.

SUBSCRIPTION, \$2 A YEAR, IN ADVANCE.

Terms of Advertising reasonable.

GAZETTE AND CHRONICLE OFFICE.

W. J. USREY,

Plain and Ornamental

BOOK AND JOB PRINTER,

No. 14 East Main Street.

Decatur, Ill., *Jan'y 28* 1870.



To the Director of
U. S. Mint
Phila Pa

Dear Sir,

On Dec 24/69 Registered Letter
No 120 was sent you and your Receipt
Recd for the same

Please write me what is the matter

Yours Resp

A. M. Allison
for W. Pope atty

Jan 4/70 sent by Adams Ex. lcs to your address

The Am't. of ^{in your letter} balance was placed by the order of the Mint
in the hands of the Agent of Adams Ex. lcs whose office is in
the building & the proceeds in gold coin \$26 ⁶⁶ sent by Adams
Ex. lcs to your address. on the 4: of Jan'y 1870. The
Agent here were inquired into the matter. It was only
sent to you,

A. M. Allison
per W. Pope, atty
Decatur, Ill.

Inquire about registered
letter (with button) of
Dec 24/69.

(am^d Jan 31/70 that
proceeds \$26⁶⁶ were
sent by Express 4 Jan/70)



Office of Surgt. at arms.
H. of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.
Jan 18th 1870.

Saban Heath, Esq.

My dear Sir;

I enclose herewith a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury to Hon. James Pollock, - director of the Mint at Philadelphia, authorizing the use of coins for our work.

I also enclose my draft for two thousand (\$2000) dollars, which you can deposit at the mint for security for their return.

You had better take out a sufficient number of coins for one third of the first plate, and let Mr. Hachler ascertain what he can do, and submit to me in writing what he will furnish them by the thousand sets for, and also get the terms of the gentleman who printed the plates for

5572.
Recd. Jan 22/70

Treasury Department.

January 18th 1870.

Sir:

Hon A. S. Ordway informs me that he has purchased of J. Russ Snowden, certain electrotype plates used by him some years since for the purpose of illustrating a book upon Coinage. He now wishes to obtain of the Mint for temporary use in touching up these plates, the coins formerly used by Mr Snowden, and proposes to deposit such an amount of coin or securities with the Mint, for their safe return, as you may require.

You are authorized to place these coins temporarily in the custody of Mr Ordway for this purpose, upon the terms proposed by him, unless you see some objection to so doing.

Very Respectfully

Geo. S. Mitchell
Secretary of the Treasury

Hon James Pollock
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia Pa

Sec'y Treasury

Requesting permission for
Hon. Mr. G. Ordway to take
impressions of certain
coins in the Cabinet for
publication.

(Letter of Mr. Ordway
filed herewith)

Correspondence
U. S. Mint
also, of
Branch Mints

January 1870,

Rec'd Jan'y 22/70

Rec'd Jan'y 22/70

Mr Snowden's work, - As soon as
~~as~~ the parties are ready to contract,
I will come on and close the matter.

We must have the best impressions
that can be made, as Mr. John J.
Knox says he has seen an English
edition which was very fine. -
I want the work creditable to the
Government as well as ^{to} ourselves.

Very Truly Yours,

N. G. Pollock

P. S.

You can show this letter to
Gov. Pollock when you present
the Secretaries letter.

N. G. P.

U.S. MINT GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE 1870/JANUARY - FEBRUARY



U.S. MINT GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE 1870/MAY-JUNE

GEORGE K. WHEAT, President.

Capital, \$200,000.

GEORGE ADAMS, Cashier.



First National Bank,

Designated Depository and Financial Agent of the U. S.

Wheeling, W. Va.

May 28 1876

Director
U.S. Mint Phila
Esq., Cashier.

Dear Sir:

I enclose ^{as promised}
you on the 17th with my check for \$180 -
with a request for 1.253¢ per - not having
heard from you I fear my letter had
miscarried - please inform me if
it has come to hand

Respy G. Adams

First National Bank
Wheeling, Va.

George Adams, Cashier.

Inquiry about \$180.
Chk for 1, 2 & 3¢
pieces.

Ans May 30/70 etc
be sent to minor.



Rec^d May 28

United States Treasury.

Boston May 27th 1860.

James Pollock Esq
Director of the Mint
Sir

I have the honor to enclose
herewith a quarter eagle bearing date 1860.
Please return it with your opinion res-
pecting its genuineness and the materials
that compose it.

It seems to be 4 1/2 grs light weight
Is it not similar to the counterfeit half
eagle which you kindly examined a
few days ago?

Very respt

Your Obt Servt
F. Haven

Asst. Treas. U.S.

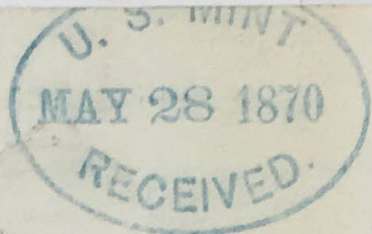
Assistant Treasurer, U. S.

Boston, 186

No. of Papers,

Subject, *Enclosy, Spurious*
quarter Eagle for
Examination

Rec^d May 28.



Easton, Pa. May 27, 1870.

Hon. James Pollock

Director of Mint U.S.

Sir:-

Herewith you have Frank's Bond for your approval, to be forwarded to the Treasury Department.

Frank in his letter to me, enclosing the Bond, says that Judge Hillyer was absent, and he was obliged to wait several months before he could see him at Carson City, to get his signature to the Bond.

Frank says they are kept busy at the Carson Mint, and are getting along quite well.

With thanks for your kindness to Frank and to myself, and my wishes for your welfare in every sense, I assure you that I am

Yours &c &c
Joshua P. Hetrick

Josiah P. Netrick
Easton Pa

Encloses official
Bond of Frank D.
Netrick, Assayer
Canon B. Mint.



Mint of the United States,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, 21st May. 1870

Hon James Pollock

Director of the U. S. Mint

Dear Sir,

In reply to the letters of the Asstt. of the N. Y. assay Office, & of Mr Mason, M & R., I would say:

1. that Mr Mason has misunderstood the term "base" as used in my letter, but by reference to the published "Instructions relative to Transaction of Business," &c. it will be found that the term "base" refers to any other metals, but gold and silver, and that where bebrittling metals are present, the term "not ductile" is used additionally; that an alloy of copper in excess, is a base metal, but not brittle, and that heavier charges are made for refining, where lead, tin, &c are present, than where copper alone is present. As I did not use the term "not ductile" but simply "base", I therefore referred only to copper. During the past year, I have more than once called

attention to the presence of lead, tin, &c. as constituting a different alloy from one containing only copper as the debasing metal.

2. To remarks by the Suptdt. & Mr. Mason "that more than enough silver has been sent in the course of this year", I reply, — that if today some 20,000 oz. of silver were deposited, the standard of which would be 17,000 oz., it would require 27,000 oz. of pure silver to bring the whole to standard. If then this amount were required forthwith in coin, we must always have that amount of coin, or of fine silver to make the coin, on hand and in our vaults. And since, when coin is made, only one half of any lot of silver is made into coin, at once, — one half the balance soon after, — and $\frac{1}{2}$ of that again still later; — then it is manifest that we ought to have a very large "bullion fund" to meet such business, say, three times the value of such a deposit, or some \$50,000 = in addition to what we have. Hence, the amount of fine silver, required to bring up base silver to standard, should be forwarded at the same time or nearly at the same time, with the baser metal!

Mint of the United States,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, _____ 186

I drew attention to the fact that up to last fall, the Assay Office had supplied us with so much base silver, during the year, as to require 50,000 oz. fine silver, more than had been forwarded to us, so that we were obliged to refine a lot of some 50,000 oz. by acid, to supply the deficiency. And altho' this deficiency was nearly made up subsequently yet it was then too late, and the active demand for coin required us to melt up this fine silver with copper instead of with base silver, so that we lost the benefit of the fine silver.

3. M^r Mason's remarks on the preponderance of Silver over Gold deposits at the Assay Office, confirms the opinions of Mess. Eckfeldt, Dubois & myself, in our conference with M^r Mason last Winter, on the subject of Refining Charges, especially for Silver, when we took the ground of making charges equal to the actual cost of doing the same, independent of the amount of fine silver accruing from gold parting, because we could not depend upon the amount

of gold to be refined. The result, cited by M^r Mason, proves the soundness of our opinion.

There is however another view, based on the charge for refining silver by acid, which ought to be done when bebrittling metals are present, in order to coinable metal, - viz. that when such charge is made, the silver ought to be refined expressly in that way & for that purpose, and not to wait until so much gold has been refined, as would return so much fine silver.

I trust that the detailed exposition of the facts of the question will be satisfactory to the Suptd^t M^r Acton and to the M & R. M^r Mason.

Respectfully yours

J. H. Booth

M & R.

Paq. Booth
M & R

Counters the
protest of N. Y. assay
office against fur-
nishing 25,000 oz
fine silver.

Rec May 21/70

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT,

(Copy)

Philadelphia, 21st May 1870

Hon James Pollock

Director of the U.S. Mint

Dear Sir

In reply to the letter of the
Supt. of the N. Y. Assay Office, & of Mr Mason, M+R., I would
say:

1st That Mr Mason has misunderstood the term "base" as used in
my letter, but by reference to the published "Instructions relative
to Transaction of Business." &c it will be found that the term
"base" refers to any other metals, but gold and silver, and that
where debrittling metals are present, the term "not ductile" is
used additionally; that an alloy of copper in excess, is a base
metal, but not brittle, and that heavier charges are made
for refining, where lead, tin, &c are present, than where copper
alone is present. As I did not use the term "not ductile" but
simply "base," I therefore referred only to copper. During the
past year, I have more than once called attention to the

presence of lead, tin, &c. as constituting a different alloy from one containing only copper as the debasing metal.

2. To remarks by the Supt.^r & Mr Mason "that more than enough silver has been sent in the course of this year," I reply, - that if to day some 20,000 oz. of silver were deposited, the standard of which would be 14,000 oz., it would require 27,000 oz. of pure silver to bring the whole to standard. If then this amount were required forthwith in coin, we must always have that amount of coin, or of fine silver to make the coin, on hand and in our vaults, and since, when coin is made, only one half of any lot of silver is made into coin at once, - one half the balance soon after, - and $\frac{1}{2}$ of that again still later; - then it is manifest that we ought to have a very large "bullion fund" to meet such business, say, three times the value of such a deposit, or some \$50,000 = in addition to what we have. Hence, the amount of fine silver, required to bring up base silver to standard, should be forwarded at the same time or nearly at the same time, with the baser metal. I drew

MINT OF THE UNITED STATES,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT,

Philadelphia, _____ 187

attention to the fact that up to last fall, the Assay Office had supplied us with so much base silver, during the year, as to require 50.000 oz. fine silver, more than had been forwarded to us, so that we were obliged to refine a lot of some 30.000 oz by acid, to supply the deficiency, and altho' this deficiency was nearly made up subsequently, yet it was then too late, and the active demand for coin required us to melt up this fine silver with copper instead of with base silver, so that we lost the benefit of the fine silver.

3. Mr Mason's remarks on the preponderance of Silver over gold deposits at the Assay Office, confirms the opinions of Messrs Eckfeldt, Dubois & myself, in our conference with Mr Mason last Winter, on the subject of Refining Charges, especially for Silver, when we took the ground of making charges equal to the actual cost of doing the same, independent of the amount of fine silver accruing from gold, parting, because we could not depend upon the amount of gold to

be refined. The result, cited by Mr Mason, proves the soundness of our opinion.

There is however another view, based on the charge for refining silver by acid, which ought to be done when debittling metals are present, in order to coinable metal, viz:- that when such charge is made, the silver ought to be refined expressly in that way & for that purpose, and not to wait until so much gold has been refined, as would return so much fine silver.

I trust ^{that} the detailed exposition of the facts of the question will be satisfactory to the Supt. Mr Acton and to the M & R. Mr Mason

Respectfully Yours
(Signed) Jas C Booth
M & R

Prof J. C. Booth
M^r. U S Min^r

Relation to Mr Mason's
understanding of the
term "bar" as used in
Prof Booth's letter = Also
in relation to the quality
of silver sent from the
N. Y Assay Office, and
the quantity of fine silver
required to refine it

Rec^d May 21/70



United States Assay Office
New York May 20 1870.

Sir:

On referring your letter of the 18th inst., containing a communication from Professor Booth in relation to the last invoice of silver bullion sent from this Office to the Mint for coinage, to the *Melter & Refiner*, Mr. Mason, I received from him the enclosed letter, which I forward for your consideration.

I am unable to find, in the correspondence which has taken place heretofore in regard to this matter, any positive instructions as to the duty of the *Melter & Refiner* to send only standard or fine silver to the Mint for coinage, or to retain silver below standard until enough fine silver is obtained to make good the deficiency. In the absence of such instructions, the law relating to the transfer of bullion to the Mint for coinage would seem to require its transmission "as soon as assayed." On examination, I find, however, that during the current fiscal year the amount thus transferred actually exceeded standard.

by nearly 5000 ounces.

Professor Booth observes, at the end of his letter, that unless the amount of fine silver required to bring up the last invoice to standard be sent on at once, "the silver may have to wait for weeks without coinage." As we are in no immediate need of silver coin, the apprehended delay will cause no inconvenience to this Office.

Very Respectfully,

Your O^bd Servant,

Gov. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

Thos C Acton
Superintendent.





United States Assay Office
New York May 19 1870.

Thos. C. Nelson Esq.
Superintendent.

Dear Sir -

The letter of the Director of the Mint of 18th inst. (enclosing a copy of one from the Metal Refiner to him of same date) submitted by you for my consideration, states that "the last invoice of silver from the New York Assay Office is so base that it will require nearly 25000 ounces of fine silver to bring it up to standard," & asks that "you will immediately furnish the required amount." It is also said, that our attention has been repeatedly called to the "grievance complained of."

Possibly, some features of the case have been overlooked by the Director, or may not have been brought to his attention.

1st The Invoice referred to was not composed of base silver. It was selected with a special view to being good, tough metal, eminently adapted for coinage. Our instructions provide for receiving ductile silver, of whatever fineness, on deposit for coin or

precisely the same terms from 750 thousandths upward;
& this silver was over 850 thousandths fine.

2^d. We have always conformed to instructions, & did so in this case; for they only require us to send "fine silver" to bring the average fineness up to standard, "if possible." Our deposits of silver have so preponderated recently, as compared with gold deposits, that our fine silver has been required to meet the demand for fine silver bars.

3^d. Not very long ago, receiving through the Treasurer's Department an intimation that the Melt & Refiner's Department in the Mint was temporarily short of fine silver, we made up an invoice of all our silver above standard, & forwarded it at once.

The average fineness of all the silver sent to the Mint from this office in 1870 to date, is over standard.

It has given us pleasure to make our transactions with the Mint satisfactory to its officers; & we have often modified our own operations for the convenience of them. Regretting sincerely that we have no fine silver at the present time, I am

Respectfully Yours,

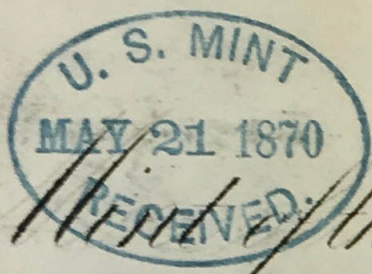
(Signed)

Andrew Mason,
Melt & Refiner.

N. Y. Assay Office

Sept & M. & R.
Explains & Controvert
Req. Boobies demand
for 25,000 oz. fine
silver. —





Minister of the United States.

Philadelphia, May 19th. 1870

A R Linderman Esq.
Dear Sir

Enclosed find Draft
to your order, from First Nat Bank of
Shawneetown, Ill, for 5¢. pieces, which
please endorse to my order, and return
at your earliest convenience

Respectfully Yours

J. A. Folger
Director

Dear Sir,

Return draft properly endorsed
to your order. Will you please
let Mr. Hickey prepare and send on
[a statement of the pecuniary
of the Mint at Philadelphia since
30th June last] I will go to
Washington before 9th proximo, the

date of the expenditure of
New York Bar order & will
probably require their figures
to show how the privilege
enjoyed by the New Yorkers
has tended against

Europe. I think I can
make out a clear case
since 1866, when their
business first commenced

Trus Young
W. B. Dickinson
Hon. Jas. B. Hall.

If you have on hand
a Washington Lincoln gold
medal, please send one
here (P. O. \$ in currency)
I want it for the conductor
of Reading & Northampton R.R.
a very clever man

H. R. Linderman &
Special Agent New York Dept

Wants Statement
of Gold Coinage
Since June 30/69
to Explain adverse
influence of N. Y.
Assay Office Bar
order.



Mint of the United States,

MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT.



Philadelphia, 18. May. 1870

Hon. James Pollock

Director of the U. S. Mint

Dear Sir,

By the last Invoice of Silver from the N. Y. Assay Office, I observe that it will require nearly 25,000 ounces of fine Silver to bring it up to standard, & I trust that you will oblige that Office to supply that amount at their own cost, and at once; otherwise the Silver may have to wait for weeks without coinage.

Very truly yours

J. A. C. Booth

M. & R.

Prof. Booth
N & R.

Wants N.Y. assay
Office to furnish 25,000
ozs. fine silver to
bring last invoice
up to Standard.





United States Assay Office
New York May 6th 1870

Sir

In pursuance of directions from the
Secretary of the Treasury I transmit
herewith my official bond as Superintendent
of the Assay Office at New York for your
approval.

Very Respectfully
Yours of. Servant
Thos. C. Acton
Superintendent

Sir

James Pollock
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

N. Y. Assay office

Encloses official
Bond of Supt
Acton.



Mr Treasury of the United States,



CASH DIVISION,

Washington April 30th 1870.

Sir-

I should like your judgment as to the within enclosed Five Cent Nickel, which is thought here to be spurious.

Very Respectfully

D. C. Johnson
Treasurer

Hon J A Pollock
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia
Pa

Mr Hickok will please write to Treas^r Spinner,
that the counterfeit five-cent piece sent by him
was composed as follows:

Nickel 13 per cent.

Zinc 26 "

Copper $\frac{61}{100}$ "

There is no zinc in genuine coin.

This piece being right in color and
weight, and the dies well executed, there seems
to be no protection for any but skilled and
careful observers, with the aid of magnifiers.

Treas. U. S.

Encloses, Spurious
5 of Nickel for
Examination.



STATEMENT OF DEPOSITS

U.S. Assay Office ^{AT THE} New York.
~~MINT OF THE U. S., PHILADELPHIA,~~

For the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 1880.

UNITED STATES BULLION.

DESCRIPTION.	VALUE.		VALUE.	
	DOLLARS.	CTS.	DOLLARS.	CTS.
GOLD.				
Alabama,	102	49	X	
Arizona,	669	33	X	
California,	1559	728	45	X
Colorado,	703	468	44	X
Dacotah,	—	—	—	
Georgia,	2101	799	X	
Idaho,	5120	458	6	X
Montana,	2231	119	87	X
Nebraska,	651	23	X	
Nevada,	9359	24	X	
New Mexico,	79988	77	X	
North Carolina,	24071	95	X	
Oregon,	4644	80	X	
South Carolina,	6754	74	X	
Utah,	5572	67	X	
Vermont,	439	13	X	
Virginia,	358	66	X	
Washington Territory,	—	—	—	
<u>Wyoming</u>	83963	53	X	
PARTED FROM SILVER,	40141	65	X	\$528409880
Mint Bars Re-deposited,	1592049	75	X	
Fine Bars,	76459	99	1	
U. S. Coin,	391335	53	1	
Jewelers' Bars,	90249	85	1	
Foreign Coin,	223698	02	1	37379314
Foreign Bullion,				
Total Gold,				\$665789194
Gold Bars Stamped,	Nos { 2942 @ 7610 1 @ 2755			\$66562681A

STATEMENT OF DEPOSITS---Continued.

DESCRIPTION.		VALUE.		VALUE.	
SILVER.		DOLLARS.	CTS.	DOLLARS.	CTS.
U. S. BULLION.	Arizona,				
	California,	✓	31 72	X	
	Colorado,	✓	123 238 97	✓	
	Georgia,				
	Idaho,	✓	3 171 30	X	
	Lake Superior,	✓	11 328 29	X	
	Nevada,	✓	486 559 69	X	
	Oregon, <i>N. Carolina</i>	✓	1 792 54	X	
	<i>Montana</i>	✓	11 386 02	✓	
	PARTED FROM GOLD,	✓	87 951 04	✓	\$ 725 459 57 X
Mint Bars Re-deposited, <i>(Denver)</i>			149 54	X	
Fine Bars,					
U. S. Bullion, <i>Coins</i>			174 845 78	✓	
Jewelers' Bars,			13 778 900	✓	
Foreign Coin,			532 345 84	✓	
Foreign Bullion,			42 774 73	✓	887 904 89
Total Silver,					\$ 1 613 364 46
Silver Bars Stamped, <i>Nos { 2559 @ 5597</i>					✓ \$ 707 400 04 X
			<i>1 @ 2945-</i>		
Total Gold and Silver,			<i>Gold \$ 665 891 94</i>		
			<i>Silver 1 613 364 46</i>		\$ 8 271 256 40 ✓
Total Fine Bars, (Gold and Silver,)					\$ 7 363 668 15 X

STATEMENT of DEPOSITS

U.S. Assay Office, N.Y.
~~MINT of the U. S.,~~

~~PHILADELPHIA,~~

For the *Fiscal Year* ending

June 30, 1870.

WEBSTER, MUSICK & CUNIFFE, GROCCERS,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS AND GENERAL OUTFITTERS,

Fort Carson, Colorado, *Aug 29* 1870

Supt. U.S. Mint
Philadelphia Pa.
Sir

We had receipt of. Capt. H. J. Cuniffe
for a gold containing \$65.00. We have heard nothing
from it as yet will you please advise us if such has
been received by you. an early answer will greatly
oblige

Yours Very Respectfully
Webster Musick & Cuniffe

Marked
Supt. U.S. Mint
Philadelphia Pa
Paid

Phil July 5-70

This gold was re-deposited at the Mint May 7-70
but could not be returned to the owner for want of
instructions, or some memorandum on the package by which it could
be known where it belonged - It goes forward to day - G. L. Thompson
Package Valued \$168 - Serial No. 145,37

Webster, Maynick & Juniffe
Ret. Law - Co.

Enquiries about
deposit.

(Has been sent -
see letter Book)

June 29 Directors Office
1870



19 Park Place, New York,

June 24th 1870

Hon. Jas Pollock

Director of the Mint

Dear Sir

Your favor of 23rd inst. has been received, and has been reported by me to Dr. Muller. It may be some time before a reply is received from him, and in the mean time permit me to submit a few remarks upon the conclusion to which you have arrived; and to the deductions which may be made from the report of the Sidney Mint submitted to you.

The amount of pure gold as shown by that report was $27,409 \frac{822}{1000}$ oz. The loss permitted by our law (new) on refining such an amount would be $\frac{1}{1000}$ or

$27,410 \frac{3}{4}$ oz. The actual loss was $3. \frac{395}{1000}$ oz. by the Miller process making a gain of about $24. \frac{02}{1000}$ oz.

The amount of pure silver was $3052 \frac{207}{1000}$ oz.

The legal lof (by the proposed new law)
on this amount at the rate of $\frac{15}{10000}$ would
be _____ \$4.579 03

The actual loss was 122,391
 Making a deficiency ^{by the Miller process} of 117,812 ³/₄

Now I presume that the ~~question~~^{problem} in all refining operations is how to do the work with the least loss of money, and that it is immaterial in a practical point of view whether the loss be made in gold or in silver. The question as to Millers process then narrows itself down to this - Which is worth more in money, 24 ounces of pure gold or 118 ounces of pure silver? And would it not be less costly to the Government to gain 24 ounces of pure gold and lose 118 ounces of pure silver, than to lose 24 ounces of gold and gain 118 ounces of silver.

In view of the greater value of the gold there
can be no doubt that if I were a refiner
and should contract to do the work at the
~~maximum~~^{maximum} loss proposed by the new law,
it would certainly pay me well to use the
Miller process, and to purchase ^{enough}_{in that metal}
pure silver (118 oz.) to make up the loss; because
I should then have about two thirds of the
gain in gold still left after paying for
such silver.

If the operation would be profitable to
an individual, it would be equally
profitable to the Government. And there
are in addition the other advantages of the
Miller process, of which no estimate is
made.

I have the honor to be

Yours respectfully

C. S. Penwick

E. S. Renwick
New York

Explains further
the Economy of
"Miller's Chlorine
process."





549 Dorchester St.
Montreal 15 June 1870

Jos Pollock Esq

Dear Sir

I was duly favoured with
your letter of the 8th & am much
obliged for the information you
give me. Since I got your letter
I have seen Sir F. Hincks on Indian
Matters. I had a long talk with
him about Canevey &c. The coins
have not come - he is keeping you
in mind with the seli. I send
you two 25 Cent fractional notes
of Canada. They are not numbered you will
perceive.

W Ryan, Chairman
of a Committee of an Senate on
International Coining Weights.

Measures & a leading Merchant of
this City kindly lent me the Blue
Book you address me to get. I find
it indeed all that you say of it -
a most valuable contribution to
the literature of currency, & things
I find I must have a copy so
have ordered it from England.
So far as I have read however I
find very little said as to why
one standard should be adopted -
nothing conclusive to my mind at any
rate. It is said that when gold
began to move off in France the first
time they issued a proclamation
denying evidently the wrong thing
the other way, overvaluing the gold.
& so the silver went off - something

the same I think you did with
your silver dollar. There is a
startling statement in Mr. Behrens'
evidence page 13 question 265-
which please look at. He declares
his belief that England would have
become a very poor country had
it not been owing to the accident
of the silver standard abroad having
been dropped - I suppose he means
by some of the leading nations. Of
course this is a strong statement -
but I can easily see the danger of
England having a gold standard
with silver gradually rising in
value & other nations dealing with
her retaining the silver standard.
The truth is, as it appears to me,
that as the standard is a thing under
legal control and as the comparative

W^m Brown

Montreal. Can

Enclosing two 25¢ Notes
Canadian Currency -
Also giving his views
on currency, coinage
gold & silver $+\frac{e}{n} + \frac{e}{n}$

Rec^d June 18th 1870

value of gold & silver alter very slowly & very gradually there could be little difficulty in guarding against depreciation either way by means of a proclamation. The fluctuations between the two I attribute to the presence of paper money which indeed causes most of the mere fluctuations in all prices. So long as we have paper currency we might have trouble to preserve a double standard.

It appears to me that Silver can do all that gold can do, & something more in the way of small payments. In fact I regard this as fully proved. I have put to paper your own interesting remarks on this point from your Report for 68-69. I wd like well to know what the Master of the English Mint thinks about it. With best regards
Yours faithfully
Wm Brown



United States Assay Office
New York June 14 1870.

Sir:

I send herewith Receipt
No. 760 for \$5084 $\frac{85}{100}$ available profits from
Jan. 1st to Mch. 31st, 1870, transferred to the
U. S. Treasury, pursuant to act of July 20th,
1870. (1868)

In consequence of instructions from
the Secretary of the Treasury, that one of
the triplicate receipts of the Asst. Treasurer
for profits transferred should be forwarded
to him, I am unable to comply with the
request contained in the Director's letter of
Nov. 7th, 1868, to transmit one of said re-
ceipts to the Department with the bullion
accounts.

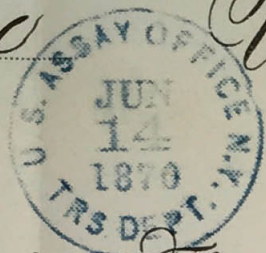
Very Respectfully,

Very Obedt. Servant,
J. H. S. S. S.
Superintendent.

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

SECOND.

No. 760



United States Treasury.

New-York, June 14, 1870

I Certify, That Chas. L. Folger, Treasurer
U.S. Assay office, N.Y.,

this day deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States

Five thousand & eighty four, ——— $\frac{85}{100}$

Dollars, on account of Transfer of Available Profits, from Jan 1st. to March
31, 1870, pursuant to act of July 20, 1868,
for which I have signed triplicate receipts.

\$5084 $\frac{85}{100}$

G.C. 3,215.57
S.C. 1,869.28

Chas. S. Alger,
Assistant Treasurer, U. S.

N.Y. Assay Office

Enclosing acc't for
\$5,084⁸⁵ available
profits transferred to
U.S. Treasury
(Jan 1. to Mch 31/70)

Also states he
cannot send acc't to
Treasury Dept with bullion
accounts.



MINT OF THE UNITED STATES,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT,

Philadelphia, 22 June. 1870

Hon. James Pollock

Director U. S. Mint.

Dear Sir,

I have read the Report of the Sydney Branch of the Royal Mint on "Miller's Chlorine Process" with much pleasure, having previously examined it in the Chemical News of 1870.

While the Experiments make a fair Exhibit of the Process, by having been conducted on a working scale, on over a half million of dollars worth of native gold, the results rather confirm the view I formerly took of the process, from a mere study of its principles, the danger of a loss of silver by volatilization beyond what would be allowed by our ordinary processes. The loss of gold is appreciable, altho less than I would have supposed to be likely to result. Please note the result according to my mode of viewing it. There were operated on 30,672.71 oz. of gold

gross weight, containing $27,409.822^{\text{oz}}$ pure gold, and 3052.207 oz. pure silver. The absolute loss in refining was 3.395 oz. pure gold, or $\frac{12.4}{1,000}$ of one thousandth of the gold. The present law allows $\frac{2}{1000}$ wastage & the proposed new law $\frac{1}{1000}$; hence the loss was $\frac{1}{6}$ of the present and $\frac{1}{8}$ of the proposed legal wastage. This result looks very fair.

The absolute loss in silver was 122.391 oz. pure silver or $\frac{4}{100}$ of the whole amount of silver present. The present law allows $\frac{2}{1000}$, & the proposed new law $\frac{15}{10,000}$. The above is $\frac{40}{1000}$ loss, or 20 times the legal wastage at present, and 27 times that allowed if the new mint law pass.

While it is probable that some of the silver in the smaller deposits of gold, according to U.S. practice, would not be reported, & therefore the proportionate loss of silver would not appear as great as the above numbers make

Philadelphia, 187

it, yet it is manifest that the absolute loss would be far beyond the present legal allowance; and consequently on this ground alone, Miller's process, altho' exceedingly tempting & promising, cannot in its present condition be employed in the U. S. Mint or its Branches.

Having been once a chemical manufacturer, I can readily imagine that the practical difficulties of flux, fuel, melting pot, chlorine & its apparatus, & mode of operating will all be conquered by skill, both chemical & mechanical, but from my observations on the volatility of melted silver & of chloride of silver in a gaseous current, even of atmospheric air, I cannot perceive nor conceive how Miller's process can be conducted without a too serious loss of silver.

Very truly yours
J. H. Booth

Prof. J. C. Booth
- M + R.

Opinion on the
Report of the Sydney
Br. of the Royal
Mint, with regard
to "Miller's
Chlorine Process."

June 22. 1870

19 Park Place, New York

June 21st 1870

Wm. Jas. Pollock

Director of the U. S. Mint

Dear Sir

In reference to your favor
upon the subject of Millers
process of Refining Gold,
I may say that I com-
municated the substance
of your letter to Mr Millers
Agent, and that he has
sent me statements of the
operation of the process
at the Royal Mint at
Sydney, from which
you will be able to estimate

the cost of the process in
this country.

I trust that the information contained in these papers will induce you to take a more favorable view of the matter than your letter indicated had been taken by the officers of your department.

Yours respectfully
C. S. Penwick

Copies of the official statements
are herewith enclosed

C. J. Renwick
New York

Enclosing Copy of
Report & Statements
of the Sidney B. of
the Royal Mint,
with regard to
"Millers Chlorine process"

Rec^d
June 22, 1870.

(copy)
Report on Experimental Refining by
Millers Chlorine Process.

Royal Mint Sydney Branch
Sydney 13th April 1869.

The Deputy Master
Royal Mint.

Sir

We have the honor to inform you that in accordance with your instructions dated 8th August last Mr Millers process of refining and toughening has received a practical trial by having been applied to the brittle gold imported into the Mint during the quarter ending 31 March last, and that we are enabled to lay before you the following report.

Referring for the details of the experiments to table A annexed, the results may be summarized as follows:

1st The amount of alloy operated on consisted of 30,672 ounces which contained according to assay

Fine gold	27,409 ounces	893.6
Fine Silver	3052	" or 99.5

parts in 1000

* This amount includes 18,592 ounces of Gold left in the silver produced

ms R. H.
A. L.

Base metals 211 69 }

2^d The refined gold produced amounted to 27,620 ounces of average assay 991.56 parts in 1000 (The two highest assays being 996 and 995). The gold was invariably perfectly toughened in the first part of the operation.

* 3^d The amount of silver extracted was 2718 ounces of average assay of 966.7 parts in 1000 while 233 ounces or 7.63 per cent of the silver operated on was left in the refined gold.

4th The loss on the whole operation consisted of

a. Loss of gold 3.395 ounces

b. Loss of Silver 122.391 ounces

These amounts calculated for the quantity of gold alloy operated on shews the proportional loss to be

Gold 11 parts in 100,000

Silver 399 " " "

Although not taken into account this loss of Gold and Silver is considerably reduced by the amount of these metals found, according to assay to have been left in the tailings from the amalgamation of the pots and ashes (see Table A) as well as that contained in the stuff

recovered from the flue of the refining furnaces, the particulars of which are as follows.

a. Assay of Tailings from amalgamation of pots and ashes which were found to contain

Gold 1.249 ounces

Silver 34.608 "

b. Assay of stuff from the short horizontal flue belonging to the refining furnaces which was found to contain

Gold 0.441

Silver 0.853

It is more than probable that the remainder of the flue as well as the bottom of the chimney contain also a small amount of both metals. The following is a full description of the whole process as adopted in these experiments:

The preliminary operations include the boraxing of the melting pots and the charging of the chlorine generators.

About 100 french white clay pots of Nos 14, 15, 16 and 20 were filled with a hot concentrated solution of borax which was allowed to remain in them for about 10 minutes, when it

was poured off: the pots when dry presented a thin coating of crystallized borax on the inner surface.

Two chlorine generators were employed they consisted of the best glazed earthenware acid jars of 10 to 15 gallons capacity with tap holes at bottom and well ground opening at top, to which were fitted with india rubber washers well ground leaden lids strengthened with cast iron backings. The lids contained two openings, one closed with a cork and holding the safety and delivery tubes, the other for charging the oxide of manganese, capable of being closed with a leaden plug covered with an india rubber washer. The lids were well secured by being screwed to iron bands passing under the bottom of the jars.

The corks holding the safety and delivery tubes were made perfectly gas tight by means of a thick coating of melted sealing wax.

The generators were heated by means of galvanized iron water baths (under which were gas burners) and were suspended by iron bands to about half their height within the water baths.

Each generator was charged with a layer of quartz pebbles through which the safety tube passed on this layer was poured from 750 to 1000 ounces of binoxide of manganese in small pieces (about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch) free from powder. The hydrochloric acid being supplied through the safety tube which stood about 8 feet above the top of the generator.

By means of india rubber tubing attached to the top of the safety tube the acid when no longer required could be driven up into a receiver and used over again in future operations.

The chlorine gas from the generators passed into a leaden pipe fitted with branches of the same material opposite each generator and each furnace the gas was then conveyed through india rubber tubing $\frac{1}{4}$ inch diameter to the clay pipes which passed through a hole in the loosely fitted lid to the bottom of the pot containing the melted alloy. In order to ensure perfectly tight joints between the india rubber tubing and the lead, glass and clay pipes a cement was used consisting of a thin solution of caoutchouc in chloroform. By means of screw clamps applied to the

was poured off: the pots when dry

india rubber supply tubes, the chlorine gas could be more or less shut off according to requirements.

For quantities of about 400 ounces of gold of about 890 assay a No 16 clay pot was used which as a precautionary measure was placed $\frac{3}{4}$ of its height within a black lead pot.

The gold potted at 9 A.M. was ready for the chlorine gas at about 10-15. It has been found advantageous to add from 3 to 4 ounces of fused borax to the melted gold previous to inserting the chlorine pipes, since if borax is added before the gold is melted it acts too much upon the lower portions of the pot.

The chlorine was supplied to each pot by one or sometimes two clay pipes and the supply of gas kept up by repeated additions of common hydrochlorine acid through the safety tube - 400 ounces of gold of about 900 assay required about 2 Winchester quarts of hydrochlorine acid for refining.

The pressure of gas was indicated by the height of the column of acid

in the safety tube which also afforded a ready method of regulating the supply of chlorine or of detecting any leakage or breakage in the clay pipes or crucibles.

The average height of the column of acid was about 84 inches for 400 ounces of gold or 20 inches for every inch of gold in the pot.

The time required to deliver sufficient chlorine to refine about 400 ounces of gold of 900 assay was found to be from 1 to 2 hours according to the size of the pipes employed and to the rate at which the gas was generated.

On the first introduction of the chlorine pipes, which have to be carefully and gradually heated and the gas allowed to pass through them while being immersed in the molten gold a quantity of fumes escape (the chlorides of some of the baser metals contained in the gold). These fumes cease after some time; while the end of the refining is indicated by other fumes accompanied by a peculiar flaming which may be observed on removing a small plug which fits into a hole in the lid of the pot. The

end of the operation is further and chiefly shown by a characteristic reddish brown colour which is imparted to a clay pipe when held over the hole before mentioned and exposed to the escaping fumes for a few seconds.

When these phenomena occurred, the gas was shut off and the crucibles taken out of the furnace. The lid was then removed, the white pot lifted out of the black one and allowed to stand for 7 minutes, when the liquid argentie chloride was poured into iron moulds while the gold which was solidified in the crucible, fell out in the shape of a cone, soon after the pot was turned upside down on the iron table.

The lump of gold was then slightly scraped and at once plunged into a strong solution of sodie chloride to free it from the little argentic chloride adhering. The salt bath was kept in a wooden tub and all contact avoided with any metals which would reduce any of the silver on the surface of the gold.

The refined gold so obtained and cleaned was remelted and poured into

engot moulds.

The argentic chloride obtained contained a considerable quantity of gold averaging 2 per cent on the amount operated on and which appears to be chiefly in a state of combination with chlorine and probably silver.

To free the argentic chloride from the gold it was melted (covered with a layer of fused borax) in a boraxed clay pot with the addition of about 10 per cent of silver rolled to the thickness of a florine.

As soon as the whole was thoroughly melted the pot was taken out of the furnace and allowed to stand for about 10 minutes; the argentic chloride was then poured into large iron pans and the button of silvery gold remaining at the bottom of the pot was remelted together with the scrapings and the addition of a little soda.

By these means it was not found possible to remove the whole of the gold contained in the argentic chloride. On an average about 7 parts in 1000 were left in the reduced silver and the proportion was never less than

2 parts of gold in 10,000 parts of reduced silver.

The argentic chloride thus obtained was readily reduced between iron plates in the usual way.

The alloy operated on was treated in 73 separate pots containing on an average 420 ounces, this amount being regulated by the assay of the gold and the size of the pot employed. Working on gold of any average assay of 890 it was found convenient with the apparatus at our disposal to refine 2 pots in a working day (9 A. M. to 4 P. M.) and to deliver within those hours about 98 percent of the gold contained in the alloy operated on in a refined state; the remainder being retained in the argentic chloride as already described.

Working with two generators each charged with 750 to 1000 ounces of binocide of manganese of about 80 per cent, the former required but three charges of manganese the total quantity used being about 300 lbs and that of Hydrochloric acid 10 cwt.

Under these circumstances six parts

of Hydrochloric acid have chloridized about one part of silver besides the base metals contained in the alloy operated on and allowing for all waste of gas.

Only a very slight smell of chlorine was observed during the operation of refining, the only time when chlorine was distinctly perceptible though without marked inconvenience to those engaged was during the pouring of the argentic chloride as already described.

From table B (also annexed) it will be seen that the total expenses incurred in carrying out these experiments (exclusive of plant) amount to £ 112 " 17 " 10 being at the rate of about one penny per ounce on the weight of the alloy operated on.

In these expenses the labor of one man only has been charged, the ^{ten}superintendence and occasional assistance required having been supplied by the regular Mint staff. The outlay for two additional furnaces, chlorine generators and sundries forming a small permanent plant, was under £ 50

on account of which £5 has been charged for wear & tear.

While the loss of gold in these experiments is duly taken into account no notice is taken either of the loss of silver, or of the amount of silver left in the refined gold, since under present circumstances the silver does not appear as any actual loss to the mint.

In considering the expenses incurred in toughening and refining these 30,672 ounces of gold it is but fair to take into account the cost which would have been entailed in toughening the same by corrosive sublimate, the process hitherto employed; by which no silver is obtained, and which may be stated as not less than £50. The whole of the brittle gold which is likely to be received at the Mint can be toughened and refined with a slight extension of the present plant. This with a small additional refinance of tough silvery gold would admit of all the bullion being brought to an average fineness of say 23 carats thus ensuring a uniform mixture of equal parts of

silver and copper forming the alloy in the standard bars prepared for coinage as has been the case during the past quarter, and the advantages of which it is unnecessary to enumerate.

We are moreover of opinion that the cost of additional plant, labour and materials required in order to be able to refine the whole of the gold received by the Mint would be more than fully repaid, so long as the gold contained three per cent of silver.

We have the honor to be
Sir

Your most Obed^t Servants

(Signed) Robert Hunt
Metter

(Signed) A. Lilins
Assayer

Sidney Br. of the
Royal Mint

(Copy)

Report of Mellor,
and Assayer on
Miller's Chlorine
Process.

Rec'd at U.S. Mint
Phil^a
June 22/70

Mint Sydney Patent Chlorine Process

Extracted by Assay Silver ounces	Ends containing by Assay				Apparent Waste in operating				Remarks
	Gold ounces		Silver ounces		Gold ounces		Silver ounces		
61 3 17					542	16	383	Excessive loss of silver p. acci- -dent.	
40 5 86	17	263		337	333	2	661		
69 1 16	11	581	2	759	1	230	8	082	
183 4 83	37	817	18	813		859	24	229	
181 7 42	23	300	6	450	1	219	5	654	
148 5 99	16	830	5	770	1	380	11	210	
95 9 41	20	436	5	714		614	10	162	
62 3 70	13	231	4	349		514	2	954	
189 0 83	39	500	12	000	1	177	14	122	
60 1 73	12	266	4	334		298	6	767	
63 5 64	13	500	7	800		401	1	884	
449 4 48	64	718	25	632	5	703	34	942	
110 4 67	15	826	7	434	1	219	8	119	
207 6 13	35	279	12	171	1	035	13	895	
61 8 77	10	004	3	216		111	4	615	
107 7 75	23	198	10	932		283	6	482	
403 4 33	84	801	21	729	4	392	8	319	
	429	550	149	440	21	310	180	480	
131 1 98					1	121	10	886	
2627 7 83	Total apparent waste				22	431	191	366	
2619 8 83	Recovered by amalgam: of Pots & ashes				19	036	68	975	
	Loss in Refining				3	395	122	391	
7 9 02	Proportional loss on Gross weight of Alloy operated on				Gold		11 parts		
					Silver		399 " }		
							in 100,000		

A

Royal N.

Experimental Refining by Miller

Brittle Gold operated on						Refined Gold delivered to Bull ⁿ Office						Silver ext.		
Gross weight		Containing by Assay				Gross weight		Containing by Assay				Gross weight		Containing
		Gold		Silver				Gold		Silver				Gold
Ounces		ounces		ounces		Ounces		ounces		ounces		ounces		ounces
1216	45	1102	892	97	010	1115	06	1095	750	19	310	73	20	6600
404	20	357	232	45	513	350	64	348	711	1	929	41	85	925
1346	50	1246	320	91	158	1244	51	1233	309	11	201	74	00	200
2649	85	2384	802	243	819	2362	59	2345	296	17	294	197	30	830
1769	40	1548	579	212	505	1538	11	1519	451	18	659	187	30	4609
1889	00	1698	022	178	699	1692	73	1679	610	13	120	155	65	202
1365	50	1230	862	128	493	1226	16	1209	484	16	676	99	40	328
657	55	572	191	76	622	564	96	558	011	6	949	63	00	435
2774	15	2534	172	229	284	2507	40	2493	321	14	079	193	10	174
994	15	906	864	77	941	900	90	894	233	6	667	67	00	067
815	90	734	310	78	326	725	36	720	282	5	078	63	75	127
3646	58	3092	204	532	251	3041	95	3019	721	22	229	458	20	2062
2024	70	1872	395	145	262	1874	53	1835	288	19	242	112	35	062
1473	58	1518	604	244	779	1493	18	1482	080	11	100	210	00	210
677	50	599	045	74	457	593	58	588	831	4	749	63	65	099
2371	05	1212	769	139	770	2203	83	2189	249	14	581	113	00	039
4302	65	3798	559	456	318	3730	58	3707	743	22	837	413	05	1623
						27166	070	26940	370	225	700	2585	80	18592
Ends delivered to Bullion Office						454	377	447	021	7	356	132	55	
30672	71	27409	822	3052	207	27620	447	27387	391	233	056	2718	35	
														delivered to Bullion Office

Loss in remelting + assay

Mean Assay of alloy } Gold 893.6
operated on } Silver 99.5 } Mean assay of refined gold 991.56
Mean assay of silver extracted 966.7

The alloy was melted in 73 pots averaging 420 ounces each

B

Experimental Refining by Millers

Detail of Expenses for the Quarter ending 31 March 1869

Labour	1 Foreman 13 weeks at 2/8	£ 31.4.0	
Fuel Coke	2 1/2 Tons @ 80/-	£ 6.5.0	
Charcoal	20 bush @ 7/6	0.10.0	} 10.5.0
Gas	7000 feet 10/-	3.10.0	
Pots chemicals &c			
white pots N-20	7 @ 2/3	£ 0.15.9	} £ 11.5.9
" 16	80 @ 1/9	7.0.0	
" 15	30 @ 1/6	2.5.0	
" 14	10 @ 1/3	0.12.6	
Lids	25 @ 6	0.12.6	
Chloime pipes			2.7.6
Black lead pots N-25	5 @ 2/4	£ 2.1.8	} 10.15.5
" 20	5 @ 6/8	1.13.4	
" 16	10 @ 5/4	2.13.4	
" 12	5 @ 4/-	1.0.0	
" 8	5 @ 2/8	13.4	
Covers	" 25 5 @ 2/6	12.6	} 52.0.5
" 18	20 @ 1/9	1.15.0	
Stirrers	5 @ 1/3	6.3.	
Oxide of Manganese	3 cut @ 4/6	13.6	} 19.6.10
Hydrochloric acid	10. @ 4 perts @ 18.13.4		
Sundries V T tubing and washers		6.0.5	} 8.4.11
Borax 16 1/4 Salt 57 Plaster Paris 1/2		1.2.6	
Ammonia of Chloroform 16		1.2.0	
			£ 93.9.5
Wear & tear of additional plant say 10 percent on out.		£ 5.0.0	} 19.8.5
Loss of Gold in Refining		14.8.5	

Total cost of refining 30,672 ounces £ 112.17.10

Lowest estimated expense of toughening)
 the same by corrosive sublimate } £ 50.0.0

Royal Mint
 Sydney
 12 April 1869

Patent Chlorine process
Memoranda respecting Silver

Net weight of Fine Silver contained in the
Alloy operated on (according to assay) } £ 3052.207

Loss in refining & 122.391

do in remelting

+ assaying

7.902

Total loss of Silver 130.293

£ 130.293

Amount remaining with refined Gold 233.056

Nett weight unavailable 363.349

Amount recovered from sweep 68.975

£ 432.324

Net weight delivered up £ 2619.883

Value at 5/- per ounce £ 654¹⁹/₄

The silver has been valued at 5/- per ounce (Five)
to allow for the extraction of the gold therefrom and
for the expense of exportation.

Cost of additions to Melting House

2 Furnaces £ 10-

Gas water & drain pipes 10-

2 Generators fitted with }
glass safety tubes &c } -15-

Gas burners, Lead pipe &c 6-0

fittings for generator 5-0

Sundries 2-10

water baths 1-10

£ 50-0

Sidney B. of
Royal Mint

(Copy)

Statement of
operations of
Mithers, Chlorine
Process

Rec'd at W. Mint
June 22/70

Royal Mint

Sydney Branch

13 June 1870

Hon. James Pollock

Director of the U.S. Mint

re re re

Sir

I have just received a letter from the gentleman who is acting as my agent enclosing your reply dated 16 May 1870 to an application on his part for the trial in the U.S. Mint of my process for refining gold by means of chlorine gas.

Allow me to thank you for the courtesy you have shown me in the matter.

I have read the very careful Reports of the gentlemen to whom you referred the subject (Messrs. Echfeldt and Booth) whose opinion and criticism I cannot but receive with respect.

I am not surprised at the objections they raise, as they were, many of them, the difficulties I myself feared I should encounter in carrying out the method. As however for the past eighteen months no other method of refining or of toughening has been employed in this Mint, I am now in a position to state what in practice are the results obtained and to what extent the points and objections raised by Messrs. Echfeldt and Booth affect the operation.

The fact that, after twelve months severe trial on various qualities of gold, the Government of this Colony have adopted my process in this Mint, (much of the gold coming to which, is of similar character to that of

The accompanying papers and Reports will afford general replies to the objections made by Messrs. Eckfeldt and Bootle to the method of refining by means of chlorine gas, but it may also be desirable to give in a separate form remarks on and replies to the points raised.

1st It is objected that clay pots are employed which are liable to fracture.

In this Mint we use French clay crucibles made by De Ruelle (late Payen) Rue Pierre Levee, Paris, No^s 17 & 18 which will refine from 600 to 700 ounces at a time. These crucibles very seldom break if carefully heated at first; but to avoid the possibility of loss we place them within a black lead crucible for guard.

2nd It is objected that the gas employed is dangerous if inhaled, to life and health.

In the simple form of apparatus employed there is in practice no difficulty encountered from this cause. The workmen experience no material inconvenience from the occasional trifling escapes of gas that occur. — There are daily many visitors, including very many ladies, to the Mint who are always shown into the apartment where this process is in operation and until told that it is in progress they are seldom aware that anything unusual is going on, so far as the sense of smell is concerned. I am aware that these are mere assertions which will hardly be credited until trial is made: but they are true.

3rd 4th and 5th objections relate to the volatilization of the precious metals and are in my opinion the most weighty objections adduced, either theoretically or practically to this method of refining. I can only reply that in practice this loss is not nearly so great as would theoretically be anticipated. — During the year 1869 there were refined by chlorine at the Sydney Branch of the Royal Mint 202663 ounces of gold alloyed with silver, varying in assay from about 850 to 960 and averaging 897.8

averaging 897.8. The amount of gold lost from volatilization and all other causes was 22.341 ~~oz~~ being less than would have occurred if the gold had been toughened by corrosive sublimate as usual, while the total loss of silver from all causes was 374.5 ~~oz~~. This is more than would have occurred with the sulphuric acid process but the additional amount is slight when compared with the saving in other respects.

6th The sixth objection is that it is unadapted to very silvery gold though possibly suited to gold poor in silver.

I must again appeal to the practical results obtained in this Mint. Much of the gold above referred (202,663 ~~oz~~) which was refined during 1869 was of assay about 850 (upwards of 70,000 ~~oz~~) we found no greater difficulty in dealing with this than with the richer gold. The time occupied in treating a pot of this gold (say 600 ~~oz~~) was in all about three hours and the resulting fine gold assayed from 993 to 996.5. & we did not detect any appreciable additional loss in the refining of this poorer alloy.

The Bank of New Zealand have been using the process in Auckland for the past fifteen months when the assay of the gold is only about 600 having purchased the right to use it with special reference to the poor gold of that province.

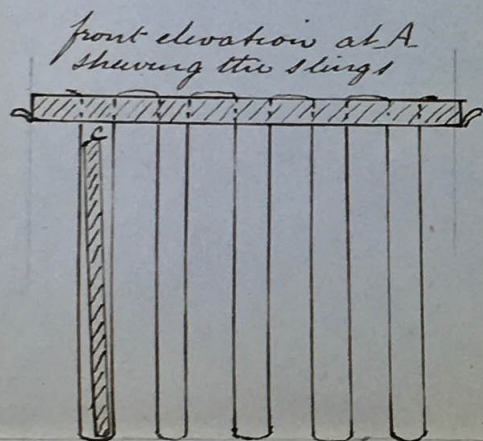
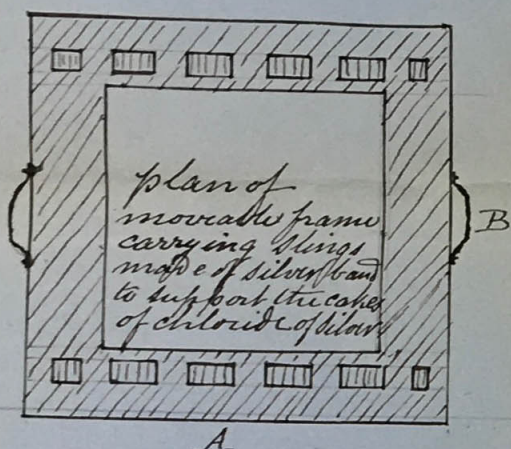
7th It is objected that skilful workmen would be required.

The operation in the Sydney Mint was at first performed single handed by an assayer's foreman; and was subsequently taken in hand by one of the Melters firemen, with the assistance of the foreman occasionally, under the general superintendence of course of the Melters Refiner.

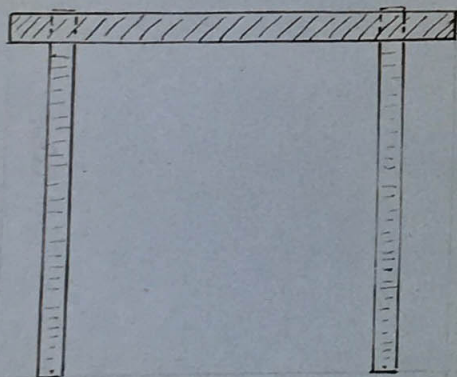
The process is entirely conducted in the Bank of N. Zealand's Refinery at Auckland by an uneducated but intelligent man who was originally a bricklayer and subsequently acted as Melters and assayers foreman in this Mint. He learnt the operation in a

Gold Refining
by Chloride

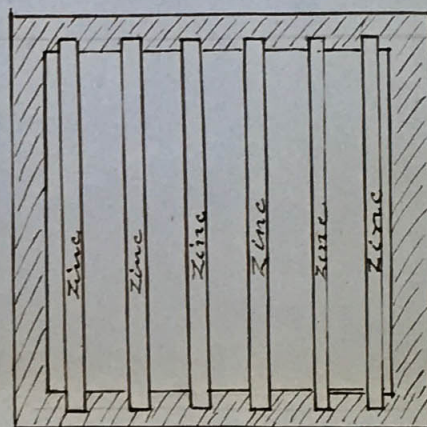
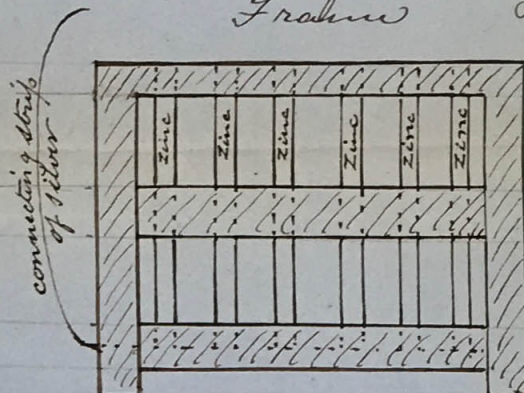
Reduction of Chloride of Silver Dr. Leibniz's apparatus



made of one continuous strip of
silver with a cake of chloride (C.)
in position in one of the loops



Elevation of Reducing
Frame



Plan of Reducing
Frame.

fortnight and then went to Auckland where he inaugurates the process for the Bank and is still working it for them.

With reference to the cost a detail of expenses is given in the accompanying Reports of Messrs. Hunt & Leibius; but it may be stated that the result of the working of the process during 1869 was, that 202,663 ounces of gold alloy were refined at a total cost of £640 including labour and loss of both gold and silver.

and it must be remembered that the cost of acid and apparatus is from 50 per cent to 300 per cent more here than in Europe.

The reduction of the chloride of silver produced in the operation is very conveniently effected by the apparatus now in constant use in this Mint contrived by Dr Leibius one of the Assayers of this Establishment which is an ingenious application of the principle of the chloride of silver battery of De la Rue & Müller. A detailed account of it is among the papers (printed) accompanying this.

In conclusion I would draw special attention to the very remarkable "toughness" which is conferred on the most brittle gold by the process of refining by chloride.

Royal Mint
Sydney
14 June 1870

F. Bowyer Miller
Assayer of
the Sydney Mint.

Frs. Bowyer Miller
Assaye Sidney Mint

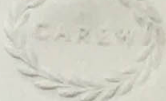
Answering objections
to Miller's Column
process. &c &c

Rec^d Sept 5. 1870

F. B. Miller
Assayer
Royal Mint
Sydney
New So. Wales

Gold refining
by chlorine gas.

Rec^d
Apr 25/70

This letter appears not to
require any further answer,
than was given some weeks ago,
in the statements made by the
Melter & Refiner, & the Assayer.
The process will not suit our
operations; and as for other offices,
they must answer for themselves.
D.

I presume our replies were sent
to his agent in N. Y., Mr Renwick.

Apr 29. 1878. J. Pollock
Dir.

Note by Dureita
Apr 29 70.

Royal Mint
Sydney
New South Wales

H. R. Linderman Esq

Sir,

I do myself the
honour of enclosing you a
reprint of a paper of mine
describing of a new process
for refining and transferring
gold by means of chlorine
gas. The method has been
found most successful and
economical in this Mint where
it is now in active operation
the saving effected being equal
to half the entire expenses of
the establishment.

The process is also being made
for its adoption in the Mint
about to be established in
Melbourne.

Handwritten text, likely a letter or document, written in cursive script. The text is heavily obscured by multiple overlapping layers of ink, making it largely illegible. The visible fragments suggest a formal or personal communication, possibly mentioning names like "Mr. [illegible]" and "Mrs. [illegible]".

I believe it would be found
eminently suited for the refining
of American gold and should
be much gratified if you
would have a few experiments
made to prove its value
in the United States Mint.

Here I have had prejudices
and vested interests to contend
with but the excessive simplicity
of the operations required, have
been too palpable to admit
of doubt and its adoption
will soon be general here.

The Bank of New Zealand
are refining thousands of
ounces daily by it.

The preliminary experiments,
before its final adoption in the
Sydney Mint extended over
a period of twelve months
and ^{upwards of} 200,000 were refined -
and from this date all gold
coming into this Mint are
to be subjected to this process.

Letiz April 23. 70

Dear Sir,

I have acknowledged
the receipt of the Miller's letter
and enclosure and
informed him that the
same have been turned
over to You as my successor
in office for such action
as You might deem proper.

Very Truly Yours
W. R. Linderman

Hon James Pollock,
Director U. S. Mint
Phila. Pa.

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to argue that a duty otherwise con-
firmed for the purposes of revenue must be
imposed if it should have any effect in
giving an advantage to local producers.
There are not many candidates who have
offered to commit themselves boldly to the
principle of direct taxation. Many who are
Ministerialists in all other matters have
shied in following in the wake of the
FISCAL SECRETARY and the
TREASURER in declaring that if more revenue
is to be raised the taxgatherer must go to people
for his property. There has been plenty of general
talk about the effect that the rich ought to
pay more and the poor ought to pay less ;
but to look in vain for any definite and
logical exposition of how it is to be done.
There is plenty of room for the exercise of
inventive genius on the part of the Ministry
in devising plans for putting into substantial

of the wrecked ships:—Sarah Black, Forbes, Major Can Saffi, England, Argalli, Gustav, Joane, Fincke, Arrish, Duke of Buccleugh, and hull of the brig Megarrills. Also the Sea Snake, of which latter the captain and seven of the crew were drowned. The National Government has published the following list of rewards offered for the discovery of gold in the vicinity of the wreck:—£1000 for the discovery of a gold field to yield 1000 lbs. of gold for one year; £1500 ditto ditto 500 to 1000 ditto; £3000 ditto ditto 1000 to 2000 ditto; £2500 ditto ditto 2000 to 3000 ditto; £3000 ditto ditto 3000 to 4000 ditto; £4500 ditto ditto, anything over 4000 ditto.

FAVOURABLE REPORT.—The meeting at Tattersall's last evening was the very best of the kind ever seen was absolutely the best of the kind in reference to the cause. There were absolutely no smokers present were anxious to do business, but the few found no backers. As nearly as could be ascertained from the offers made, the following was the state of the engagements for the pony race, Lilly and Duzey were equal written at 6 to 2, and 4 to 1 was offered against any of remainder.

REMARKS.—There appears to be an impression abroad that Irish Kate will not start, and her admirers, therefore, not anxious to write her name in their books. The fact is that at which she is handicapped, 3 stone 10 lbs., is light to be too much for her. For Tattersall's Cup, 5 to 1 is offered about Phoenix, and 3 to 1 against Warwick, and Earl Baron, and A. J. 2 to 1.

towards evening having previously assisted themselves an old saddle and two bridles they found in a corner hut. Here these juvenile marauders stole two valuable horses—a bright bay draught gelding, belonging to (Benzley, and a grey horse, the property of a man who was working for him. They afterwards rode off on these horses to their hut, packed up their swag, and started for Gundagai. On their way they met a man named Wil Powell, who was travelling with his family in a dray towards Sydney. As one of his horses was collar-gut Powell very improperly offered to exchange the lad against the stolen horse, and after some bargaining the lad was taken from Stewart, and after some bargaining the lad was taken to exchange it for a double-barrel gun of Powell's. Powell and his wife went to a hut near, just under the old mill, and hid the stolen horse and the gun. Stewart and Byrnum mounted on either horse and continued their career. The next day, 14th instant, they met a lad, eleven years old, named William Bull, down the bank of the creek, under pretence of showing him a box of shot, and, having thrown down, Byrnum held his hands while Stewart, who was armed, took off his boots and put them on, after which they mounted their joint horses and rode off. The father, when he heard of the circumstances, got a horse and gave chase; but the two boys were not far from

BONDS, SECURITIES, ETC., UNLAWFULLY ACQUIRED AND INVESTMENTS EXCEEDING THE LIMITS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 5:
AS AMENDED

Description	Par value	Book value	Name directors who, as shown by the ba approved the purchase of these bonds, a quired.

JUNE - 13 - 1876

CHLORINE PROCESS
FOR

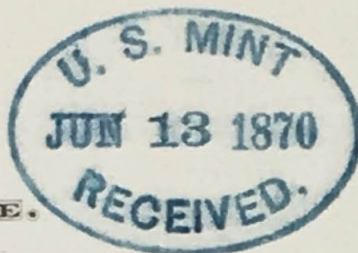
REFINING GOLD

SYDNEY - AUSTRALIA

**BONDS, SECURITIES, ETC., UNLAWFULLY ACQUIRED AND INVESTMENTS EXCEEDING THE LIMITS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 5
AS AMENDED**

Description	Par value	Book value	Name directors who, as shown by the ba approved the purchase of these bonds, a quired.

BOX 10
POST OFFICE.



Hendricks Brothers,

49 CLIFF STREET

New York, June 11th 1870

Mr James Pollock

Director U.S. Mint. Phila

Dear Sir: We are in receipt
of yours under date of the 10th inst. with
enclosure which we return signed as
requested.

Enclosed we hand you Twenty one (\$21)
dolls currency, and beg to trouble you
to forward to our address four (4) additional
Silver medals in cases. same as those
received yesterday. and oblige

Yours Truly
Hendricks Brothers

Hendricks Brothers
49 Cliff Street
New York

Returns received
tendant for bill of
Copper S. & B. Mint
also adms 4 H.
R. A. medals.





United States Assay Office
New York June 8, 1870.

Sir:

In your letter of Jan. 31, 1870, addressed to the Superintendent ad int., you refer to the cutting down of the appropriations for the support of the Assay Office, by the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, & ask for information as to the effect it would have upon the operations & efficiency of the Office, &c. should the diminished appropriations be finally adopted.

In reply, a detailed statement of the case was furnished you, together with an explanation of the steps already taken to secure a rectification of the error into which the House Committee, through lack of necessary information, had fallen.

Soon after assuming the duties of Superintendent, I deemed it advisable to make further efforts to obtain the necessary amendments to the House Bill, & accordingly requested Mr. Edman, the Deputy Treasurer, to visit Washington,

& by personal representations endeavor to show the absolute necessity of a change in the appropriations. This he did, waiting upon the Secretary of the Treasury, the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, & others, from whom he received assurances that the matter would receive due attention.

On examining the Appropriation bill, as passed by the Senate, however, I find that the appropriations for this Office stand precisely as in the House bill, viz:

For Salaries of Officers & Clerks .. \$25,700.

" Wages of Workmen 40,000.

" Incidental & Contingent Expenses 50,000.

Total \$115,700.

This, as you will see by reference to the letter of Feb. 1st above mentioned, leaves us in an extremely embarrassing situation. The appropriation for salaries is \$2,300 less than the amount asked for in the estimate of Mr. Drumming, which amount is necessary to cover increased compensation allowed by the Secretary of the Treasury, as explained in the letter of

Mr. Drumming to the Director, under date of October 26, 1868, viz:

"By authority of the Secretary of the Treasury, under date of Feb. 13, 1867, the salary of the bar clerk was increased from \$1600 to \$1800 - increase \$200.

Under date of Jan. 10, 1868, the pay clerk was transferred from the U.S. Asst. Treasurer's office to the Assay Office, at a salary of 1,900.

And under date of Oct. 3, 1868, the salary of the bullion clerk was increased from \$1800 to \$2000 - increase 200."

Total increase \$2,300.

In addition to this, the salary of the Deputy Treasurer was increased, under date of Nov. 6, 1869, from \$3,000 to \$4,500 - increase 1,500.

Making the total amount required above the Appropriation allowed by Congress \$3,800.

Thus, without allowing for the increased compensation asked for the Officers & Clerks in the estimates of Jan. 7th, the sum of \$29,500

a close calculation, to meet all probable expenses for the ensuing year.

But, very much to my surprise, I learn from a letter of the First-Comptroller, dated May 7, 1870, to the Treasurer of the Assay Office, that an item of \$11,789.35, being "available profits" accrued in the 2nd quarter of 1868, & claimed by this Office under the law of March 4, 1853, as belonging to the fund for the support of the Office, has been disallowed by the Department. The Comptroller says:

"The amount of 'available profits' which accrued during the 2nd quarter of 1868, & which were deposited into the Treasury subsequent thereto, were not placed to the credit of the Incidental fund, as the Act of Congress approved July 20, 1868, required that they should be covered directly into the Treasury. The Act in question did not provide that the 'available profits' accruing only subsequent to its passage should be so disposed of, but that hereafter all the 'available profits' shall be covered into _____ the Treasury, to be expended

only by a specific appropriation."

Under date of May 28th, he further says, in reference to this item:

"Inasmuch as it has been deposited into the Treasury, not to the credit of any appropriation, it would be necessary that an act of Congress should be obtained before it can be used for any purpose."

With all respect for the opinion of the Comptroller, I am constrained ^{to regard} this as a mistaken view of the case. The "available profits" accrued before the passage of the act of July 20th were in fact already appropriated, under the act of Mch. 4, 1853, for the support of the Assay Office, & when transferred to the Treasury, should have been placed to the credit of the Office on the books of the Department. That they were not deposited before July 20th, was due to the fact that the accounts of the Office could not be brought up before that date; but I am unable to see why that should invalidate the claim of the Assay Office to them, since, under the act of Mch. 4, 1853, they formed part of the appropriation for the fis-

cal year ending June 30, 1870.

If I am right in this view, it is clear that an error has been made in the entry of the amount in question upon the books of the Treasury. The remedy in such a case would seem to be a simple correction of the error — for which an Act of Congress, as suggested by the Comptroller, would hardly appear to be necessary.

I would respectfully ask your particular attention to the withdrawal of this sum from our Ac., as affecting the operations of the Assay Office during the coming year. Taken in connection with the large deficiencies in the Appropriations — should they not be rectified — I fear we shall find ourselves seriously crippled, should the decision of the Comptroller be sustained.

The appointment of a Committee of Conference on the Appropriation bill affords opportunity to secure the necessary changes in the Appropriations for this Office. May I ask you to forward this communication at once to the Secretary of the Treasury, with your official endorsement, & such comments & suggestions as you may

deem proper to add thereto? Unless some action is taken to relieve our embarrassment, I do not see how, in view of the Act of Feb. 12, 1868, prohibiting the transfer of appropriations between different branches of the same department, the business of the Office can be properly transacted during the coming year.

To recapitulate: The amounts actually required for the support of the Office are as follows:

For Salaries of Officers & Clerks	\$29,500.
" Wages of Workmen	68,000.
" Incidental & Contingent Expenses	<u>44,000.</u>
Total	<u>\$141,500.</u>

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedt. Servant,

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia,
Penn.^a

J. H. C. Acton
Superintendent.

(N. Y. Assay Office)

From

Superintendent of
Assay Office, N. Y.

to

Director of the Mint.

Subject:

Appropriations for the
Fiscal Year 1870-1, &

Error in Crediting

"Available Profits."



366

HNDTWENTYAIT. NY. JUNE THIRD. JAMES POLLOCK. DIRECTOR U.S. MINT. PHA. LETTER OF TWENTY SEVENTH NOT RECEIVED.

NO MINNESOTA IN MARKET. QUINCY TWENTY CENTS. OTHER GOOD LAKE COPPER AT NINETEEN FIVE EIGHTS CENTS FREE ON BOARD. HENDRICKS BROTHERS.



P.O. Box 10.

Office of Hendricks Brothers,

49 Cliff Street,

New York June 3 1870

James Pollock Esq.
Director. U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

Dear Sir: We are in receipt
of your favor of the 2nd inst and contents
noted. As yours of the 27th ulto was not
received we telegraphed you as follows.
"Letter of the 27th not received. No Minnesota
in market. Quincy 20^{cts} other good Lake
Copper 19^{ths} cents free on hand." Since which
we find there is a small lot of Minnesota
on the way here from the mine in transit
to Europe. The agent of the European firm
has given us refusal at about 23^{cts} gold
or equal in currency to 26³/₄. Subject to
reply by telegraph tomorrow morning.
It will afford us pleasure to serve you
and remain

Respectfully,
Hendricks Brothers

"Detroit Smelted" better than Quincy.

Handricks Bros.
49 Cliff street
New York

Reports prices of
Copper.





United States Treasury.

Boston June 2^d 1870

Sir:

Please accept my thanks for your
letter of 31st ult & information concerning
the counterfeit quarter-eagle.

Yours truly

F. W. H. H.

Asst. Treas. U.S.

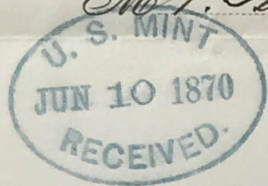
James Pollock Esq
Director of U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

F. Haven
asst Treas. U.S.
Boston. Mass.

Returns thanks
for report on spurious
quarter eagle.



New York June 8 1870



Mr. Jas Pollock
Director U S Mint
Phila

Sir

Herewith please find Invoice & Bills

of 7 Casks Quincy Ingot Copper
forwarded by as above

and amounting, at your debit, to \$2223⁶⁰ for which amount
we have receipted as directed by you

Respectfully yours,

Hendricks Brothers.



N^o 4064

Office of the Assistant Treasurer of the U. S.

Philadelphia, June 20 1870

I Certify, That Geo. Eyster.

Treas. U. S. Mint Phila. Pa.

has this day deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the U. S.

Fifty thousand ¹⁰⁰ Dollars,

on account of Profits derived from coinage
of 1, 2, 3 & 5 Nickel coins,
for which I have signed triplicate receipts.

\$50,000

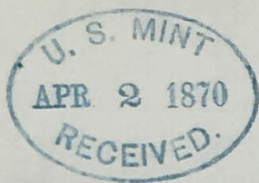
Geo Eyster

Assistant Treasurer U. S.

U.S. MINT GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE 1870/MAY-JUNE

2000
VOLUME 10
1000

U.S. MINT GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE 1870/MARCH - APRIL



United States Assay Office
New York April 1st 1870.

Sir:

I send enclosed my requisition, upon
the Secretary of the Treasury, for Thirty-Seven
thousand dollars, viz:

For Salaries of Officers & Clerks	\$10,000.-
" Wages of Workmen	12,000.
" Incidental & Contingent Expenses	15,000.
Total	<u>\$37,000.-</u>

Will you have the goodness to give it
immediate despatch, with your official ap-
proval?

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedt. Servant.

Thos. C. Acton
Superintendent.

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia,
Penn.^a

(Copy)

United States Assay Office
New York April 1st 1870

Sir

I respectfully request that you will issue your warrant in favor of Chas I Folger, Treasurer U.S. Assay Office, New York, for Thirty-Seven thousand dollars, on account of appropriations for the support of this Office, viz:

For Salaries of Officers & Clerks	\$10.000. ⁰⁰	
Less Transfer Draft No 2938, on Warrant No. 181, issued without requisition from this Office, & erroneously drawn from Appns for Salaries of O. & C. instead of Inc & Con ^t Exp ^t by the Dept at Washington	<u>845.53</u>	\$9.154.47
" Wages of Workmen		12.000.00
" Incidental & Contingent Expenses	15.000	
" Increased by Transfer Draft No. 2938 issued and drawn erroneously as above	<u>845.53</u>	<u>15.845.53</u>
Total		\$ 37.000.00

I remain, very respectfully

Your Obedt Servt

(Signed) Tho^s H Acton

Superintendent

Hon Geo S Boutwell
Secy of the Treasury

Assay Office New York

Copy of Requisition, drawn
April 1st 1870. for use of
Assay Office for
\$ 37,000

N. Y. Assay Office

Enclosing requisition
for \$37,000. for ordinary
expenses, 1869-70.-

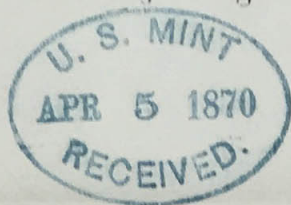


The Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad Co.

MORRIS & ESSEX DIVISION.

COAL AGENT'S OFFICE,

Hoboken, N. J. April 2nd 1870.



To the Superintendent of Philadelphia Mint.
Philadelphia
Pa

Sir,

Can I obtain of you six = 25 cent.

Gold pieces. for certain use (not to be mutilated in any way whatever.)

please state the amount in currency I shall send for them
Yr oblige.

Yours Resp.

D. E. Hanson

Address as above.

Jas. E. Hansen
Rochester N.Y.

Wants 25 ct.
Gold pieces.



COAL AGENTS OFFICE
ROCHESTER N. Y.

The Baltimore & Annapolis Co.



Treasury Department,

OFFICE OF SUPERVISING ARCHITECT,

April 4th, 1870.

Sir

Yours of the 1st inst. submitting a bill in duplicate for 100 ounces granulated silver furnished the Photographer of this Department, amounting to \$139 $\frac{93}{100}$ silver coin, has been received and the bill this day referred to the First Auditor for examination settlement and remittance to you of the amount found due therein, a draft for which will probably be forwarded in a few days.

Very Respectfully
J. P. Muller

Supervising Architect.

Jas. Pollock, Esq.
Director of the Mint.
Philadelphia
Pa.

A. B. Mullett
Sup. Archt

Bill for 100⁰⁰ paid
-ulated Silver for Pho-
-tograph Rec. Dept
\$139⁹³ has been received
Bills 1st And. for settle-
-ment & remittance



N.Y. Assay Office

Enclosing receipts
bills for freight, cart-
age, & cooperage on
San Juan receipts per
Ship "Jocara"





Treasury Department.

April 6th. 1870

Sir

From the returns made to the Department by the Assistant Treasurer in Philadelphia, it appears that about thirty seven thousand dollars of five and three cent copper-nickel coins have accumulated in that office. The Assistant Treasurer has been directed to transfer these coins to the Mint for the purpose of being brightened, after which you will please request the Treasurer of the Mint to transfer all orders and remittances for these coins to the Assistant Treasurer to be filled, until the amount on hand is exhausted.

Very Respectfully
J. D. Amerson
Acting Secretary

Howe James Pollock
Director of the Mint



United States Assay Office
New York April 7, 1870.

Sir:

I send herewith a list of the Clerks, Assistants, Workmen & other Subordinates employed in this Office, with a statement of the class to which they respectively belong, & the department in which they are employed, as requested in your letter of the 2nd inst.

Very Respectfully,
Your O^bt. Servant,

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

Thos. C. Acton
Superintendent.

N.Y. Assay Office

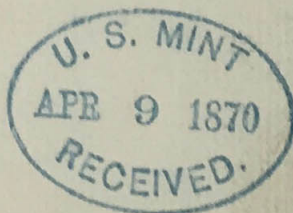
Enclosing list of
assistants, clerks,
& employees, for
Sec'y Treas



Sec'y Treasury

Enclosing Silver Bulletin
Memorandum No. 56. of
Mch 2nd 1870 - for
Explanation of errors &
Changes.

[Prof. Booth's reply
filed herewith]



List of Working force in
New York Assay Office
Mint of the United States.

Philadelphia, Apr 8. 1870

No. of Papers, 1

Subject, Transmits list
of working force in
N.Y. assay office



List of Clerks, Assistants, Workmen,
and other Subordinates employed in the U.S.
Assay Office, New York.

Name.	Class.	Department.
Carl Schultz	Asst. Assayer	Assay Laboratory
J. M. Floyd	Accountant	Treasurer's Dept.
Sam. H. Graham	Night Clerk	" "
A. Mauley	Bullion "	" "
O. E. Roberts	Paying "	" "
C. A. Todd	Bar "	" "
T. O. Conant	Assistant	Superintendent's "
Geo. T. Edelman	"	Treasurer's "
H. G. Torrey	"	Assay Laboratory
J. F. Wilder	"	" "
J. H. Sylvester	"	" "
Wm S. Ward	"	" "
F. J. Tollner	Messenger	Superintendent's Dept.
Patrick Bagen	"	Treasurer's "
Geo. Cleveland	"	" "
Dan. Smith	"	" "
H. B. Stoddard	"	" "
Walter Kubner	Night Watchman	
John V. Hart	"	
Harry Thomas	"	
W. H. Sickles	"	

F. J. Tollner	Messenger	Superintendent's Dept.
Patrick Bagen	"	Treasurer's "
Geo. Cleveland	"	" "
Dan. Smith	"	" "
W. B. Stoddard	"	" "

Walter Kubner	Night Watchman
John V. Hart	"
Harris Hines	"
W. H. Sickles	"

Camille L. Degé	Special Detective
-----------------	-------------------

Erwin Hibbs	Foreman	Assay Laboratory
Patrick Coon	Workman	" "
Henry Risbey	"	" "
John Ryan	Errand Boy	" "

Levi Springsteen, Jr.	Foreman	Melter & Refiner's Dept.
John Brunner	Workman	" "
C. G. Brunner	"	" "
Henry Doherty	"	" "
Dan. Sheridan	"	" "
A. V. Springer	"	" "
Peter W. Steele	Engineer	" "
John C. Colgan	Workman	" "
W. H. Cooper	"	" "
Patrick Flanagan	"	" "
Patrick Flinn	"	" "
Oscar Gardner	"	" "
C. W. Harned	"	" "
Patrick Keely	"	" "
Geo. Pettigrew	"	" "
John Mace	"	" "
Herman Putsch	"	" "
Jacob Rodemann	"	" "
Geo. Riley	"	" "
Geo. Wilhelm	"	" "

Clerks & Messengers belonging to the Independent Treasury, & paid by the Assay Office until the close of the present fiscal year, as directed by the Sec. of the Treasury, Jan. 27, 1870.

F. S. Allen	Clerk
A. Goodwin	"
W. P. Colegate	"
C. W. Evans	"
L. Mucker	"
J. D. Stearns	"
Geo. Patterson	Messenger
A. Riefenburgh	"

L. of Under
Shorthand, Boston
& all, students
employed in the
Shorthand Agency
Office
April 1870

April 1 1870

N. Y. Assay Office

Schedule of working
force employed,

Recd 4/1/70



United States Assay Office
New York April 9, 1870.

Sir:

I send enclosed an amended requisition upon the Secretary of the Treasury for Thirty-four thousand dollars, viz:

For Salaries of Officers & Clerks	\$9,500.-
" Wages of Workmen	9,500.
" Incidental & Contingent Expenses	<u>15,000.</u>
Total.	<u>\$34,000.-</u>

The change in amount was made necessary by advice from the First Comptroller that the funds to the credit of the Assay Office, on the appropriations for salaries & wages, were not sufficient to meet the amount drawn for, after deducting the taxes accrued from April 1st 1867, to December 31st 1869. Of this I had not before been advised.

Will you have the kindness to forward the requisition, with your official approval, as soon as possible?

Very Respectfully,

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint, Phil^a

Thos. C. Acton
Superintendent.

N. Y. Assay Office

*Enclosing annexed
Requisition for \$34,000.*



MINT OF THE UNITED STATES,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT,

Philadelphia, 9. April 1870

Hon. James Pollock

Director U. S. Mint

Dear Sir,

I have examined the letter of the
Treas^r & Dep^t, in relation to Num. N^o 56, Silver Bars,
Colorado, & herewith state recollections, facts & opinions,
in relation to said deposit.

A number of such deposits have been offered at the
Mint this Spring, & have been at first refused, as being
too base to warrant our refining, except at the fullest
rate of charges, & even then, ~~protested~~ against returning
the traces of gold, that might be contained in them, on
the ground that the Gov^t would lose money, even at
the highest rate of charge, allowed, because the cost
of refining could not be met by such charges. The
parties depositing however, urged our taking their
deposits at a all hazards, & at any charges. In order

finding a little gold in it, which would help to cover the cost of refining, we concluded not to charge more than 3 cts. pr. oz. gross., which is the price charged in the Mem. of N^o 56. Now in a deposit of 500 @ 1000 oz. the least amount of gold that would be reported would be $1\frac{1}{2}$ thousandths. In N^o 56. the gold did not equal this. But assuming it to be $1\frac{1}{2}$ thousandths, its value would have been about \$16.00, or nearly what we should have charged extra for the refining, when bullion is of the character of N^o 56.

The depositors of N^o 56 have therefore not the slightest ground of complaint, but have paid a shade less than they would otherwise have done, if we had refined both for gold & silver, & then charged them the full amount we were entitled to do by the published scale or rate of charges.

Respectfully yours
L C Booth
M & R

to accommodate them, I have heretofore waived my objections, on the condition that at least the Govt should not lose. Nevertheless, I am so persuaded that we have returned to the depositor in several cases more than we ought, that after consultation with the Assayer, I have urged that we should reject such excessively base deposits, until we can have a Cupel furnace erected, which may probably enable us to take very base Bullion, & refine it, without loss to the Government, & without too great cost to the Depositor.

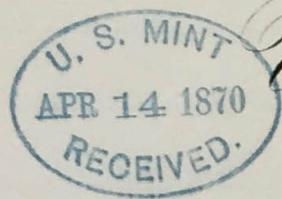
You have already sanctioned the erection of the Cupel furnace.

Now the Special Deposit in question, was regularly rec^d, weighed & assayed, the amount of silver contained reported, & such a trace of gold, ~~only~~^{as} to fall without the limits of a Report on it, as to make it not worth reporting on. In order to refine it, I had to postpone the Regular operations of the Mint (in Refining) for a whole day.

The regular charges for that Deposit should have been not less than 6 cts. pr. oz., & even that would not have covered the cost, with so base a deposit. Nevertheless,

J. L. Booth M + N.

Reply to Complaint
through Seizure
of Excessive Charge for
Refining Silver Deposit
Mem. No. 56. --



United States Treasury.

Boston, April 11th 1870

Sir,

I enclose herewith a five dollar gold coin issue of 1858. requesting an opinion regarding its genuineness and peculiar appearance.

It was cut open in this office.

Respy

Your Obt Servt.

F. Hance
Asst. Treasr.

To the

Director of the Mint
Philadelphia
Pa

F Hance Jr

117 $\frac{3}{4}$ grs.

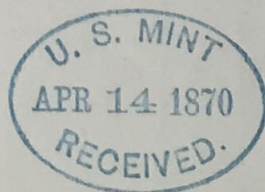
light 11 $\frac{1}{4}$.

Assistant Treasurer, U. S.

Boston, *Apr 11* 1870

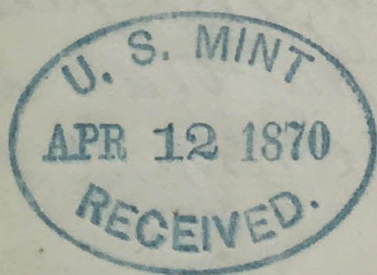
No. of Papers, _____

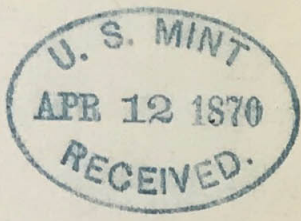
Subject, *Enclosy Sur-*
rected half Eagle
of 1858 for Exam-
ination.



Edward Keenan
Boston Mass

Wants to know
the weight of the
small packets of
gold in the Mint
Cabinet; and
the smallest packets
the Assay Scale
can weigh.





Treasury Department
Bureau Engraving & Printing

April 11 " 1870

Honorable

James Pollock,

Director U.S. Mint,

Philadelphia.

Sir:

*I send you this day
per Express a quantity of gold,
the value of which I beg
you will remit to me, in
pure Drop Silver —*

Very respectfully

Geo. M. Carter.

Chief of Bureau Engraving & Printing.

Weighed 12. April 1870 by H. Cochran & found = 2.23 oz

ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY,

GREAT EASTERN, WESTERN AND SOUTHERN EXPRESS FORWARDERS.

[DOMESTIC BILL OF LADING.]

Philadelphia, April 14

1868.

RECEIVED of

Director of U. S. Mint

one Parcel

Value \$500

For which this Company charges

Marked Geo. B. R. Luntz Exp

Washington D C

Which it is mutually agreed is to be forwarded to our Agency nearest or most convenient to destination only, and there delivered to other parties to complete the transportation.

It is part of the consideration of this contract, and it is agreed, that the said Express Company are Forwarders Only, and are not to be held liable or responsible for any loss or damage to said property while being conveyed by the Carriers to whom the same may be by said Express Company entrusted, or arising from the dangers of Railroads, Ocean, or River Navigation, Steam, Fire in Stores, Depots, or in Transit, Leakage, Breakage, or from any cause whatever, unless in every case the same be proved to have occurred from the fraud or gross negligence of said Express Company or their servants; nor, in any event, shall the holder hereof demand beyond the sum of Fifty Dollars, at which the article forwarded is hereby valued, unless otherwise herein expressed, or unless specially insured by them, and so specified in this receipt, which insurance shall constitute the limit of the liability of the Adams Express Company. And if the same is entrusted or delivered to any other Express Company or Agent (which said Adams Express Company are hereby authorized to do,) such Company or person so selected shall be regarded exclusively as the agent of the shipper or owner, and as such alone liable, and the Adams Express Company shall not be, in any event, responsible for the negligence or non-performance of any such Company or person, and the shipper and owner hereby severally agree that all the stipulations and conditions in this receipt contained, shall extend to and inure to the benefit of each and every Company or person to whom the Adams Express Company may entrust or deliver the above described property for transportation, and shall define and limit the liability thereof of such other Company or person. In no event shall the Adams Express Company be liable for any loss or damage, unless the claim therefor shall be presented to them in writing at this office, within thirty days after this date, in a statement to which this receipt shall be annexed. All articles of Glass, or contained in Glass, or any of a fragile nature, will be taken at Shipper's risk only, and the shipper agrees that the Company shall not be held responsible for any injury by breakage or otherwise, nor for damage to goods not properly packed and secured for transportation. It is further agreed, that said Company shall not, in any event, be liable for any loss, damage, or detention caused by the acts of God, Civil or Military Authority, or by Rebellion, Piracy, Insurrection or Riot, or the dangers incident to a time of war, or by any riotous or armed assemblage. If any sum of money, besides the charge for transportation, is to be collected from the consignee on delivery of the above described property, and the same is not paid within thirty days from the date hereof, the shipper agrees that this Company may return said property to him after the expiration of that time, subject to the conditions of this receipt, and that he will pay the charges for transportation both ways, and that the liability of this Company for such property while in its possession for the purpose of making such collection, shall be that of Warehousemen only.

For the Company,

Freight,

Geo. B. R. Luntz



Official

Treasury Department,
BUREAU OF
Engraving and Printing

April 15th 1870

Honorable

James Pollock

Director U. S. Mint,

Philadelphia

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst, advising me of the transmission, per Express, of 32.05 ounces pure Silver, the value of gold button forwarded to you on the 14th inst.

In reply, I beg you to accept my thanks for your

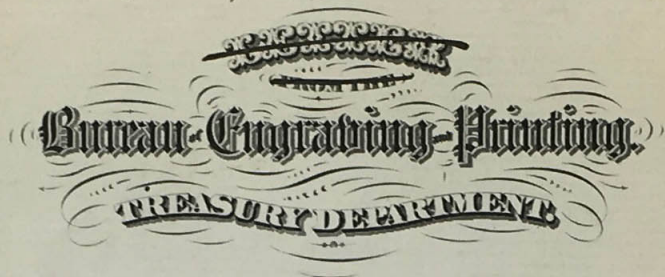
Courtesy in the matter, and to say
that it will afford me pleasure
to reciprocate at any time, if in
my power. ~

Very respectfully

Geo. W. Carter.

Chief of Bureau

Geo. B. Martee
Chief of the



Dated April 15, 1870

Received

Subject.

ack'g with thanks
32.05 ozs pure silver
in return for gold
button. —



N. 1105 v.1 71

Camden NJ
Oct. 14 /70

Jos. Wharton.

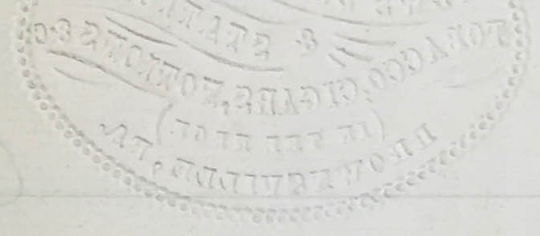
Refer to the
probability of an
advance in milk
&c.

Recd for feeding
Sept. 19th 71
D.C. check

Pa. March 15th 1870
Brownsville Fayette Co

To the Superintendent
of the U. S. Mint
Philadelphia Pa
Gents & Sirs

It is with pleasure that I
enquire of you about certin Coin
(U. S. Coin) Washington Cents of
Eather year 1791 or 1792 if you
have got any and what they
are worth each, and also U. S.
cents of 1793-1799. & 1804- and
what they are worth each - and
the Nickel cents of 1856- and the
worth of it - or Wether they was any
coined or Issued in 1856- and if
their was Please let me know as
I would like to get those dates to
fill a private collection of my own
not to sell to any person - and if
you have got Eather ^{or all} of the above dates
Please let me know the price for them
and I will send to you for them (the
money accomping), that is if the price is not
to steep for me - and if you have
over



not got them Please let me know
 where I might get hold of them
 find enclosed P. O. Stamp for
 return answer

Hoping to hear soon from you

Yours Truly and
 Respectfully

J. L. Wise
 Brownsville

News Depot
 Brownsville Fayette Co
 Pa

P. O. Box 56

Ans. L. Wise
 Brownsville Pa
 wants seal sent to the
 Mar. 15/70
 Ans. Mar 17/70
 want seal sent
 seal in old coin
 Seal



Mankato, Minn
Nov 13th

Gents

Please inform
me the quality of
United States gold coin
That is the number of
Carrelts fine I have had
a controversy with a
friend about the quality
of gold coin for that
reason I take the liberty
to write

Respectfully
P. K. Wiser

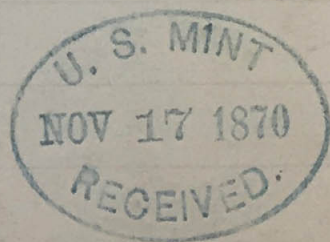
The quality of U.S. gold
coin before 1834, was by
law 22 carats, or $916\frac{2}{3}$ thons.

It is now 900 thousandths,
which is $21\frac{19}{32}$ carats, as
near as may be. We do not
go by carats any longer.

26.

P. K. Wiser,
Mankato,
Minn.

As to the quality,
in Carats, of U.S.
gold coin,





United States Assay Office
New York Jan. 12. 1878.

Dear Sir:

On the 13th of August 1868, I addressed a letter to the Superintendent of the assay office, calling his attention to an act of Congress, (passed about that time) requiring all the "profits of the Mint & Branches to be covered into the U. S. Treasury, & directing that no disposition of the deductions" be made until the decision of the 1st Comptroller as to the scope of the act could be obtained.

On the 7th of November following, I informed the Superintendent, of the decision of the ~~Superintendent~~ Comptroller & directed a compliance therewith. In examining some statements prepared at my request, I find that the law as construed by the Comptroller, has not been ^{fully} complied with at this office. - Will you be kind enough to furnish me with a correct copy of the decision of the Comptroller in this subject. It will

on looking at the correspondence you may see that
I took especial pains to have the law strictly
complied with both here and at San Francisco.
(Refer to the disposition of the deductions) but there
appears to have been a disposition to consider
this office as independent of the Mint.

be found in the files of your office under
date of about ~~August~~ November 6th 1868.
~~It~~ It would be well also, if I could
have a copy of my letter to the 1st.

Emplotted presenting the card dated
probably about August 13. (It may
have been addressed to the secretary
replied to by him)

I suggest that you postpone
any settlement of the bal: Sweep &c
until the same as relating to this
affair is looked into - After that
I will see you - Meanwhile please
furnish the copies asked for at
your earliest convenience.

I have not yet seen Judge
Meyer cannot therefore say whether
the Sewall has taken any action
in reference to loaning coin or
bars. - Will advise you
early on the subj. A. -

In haste Truly yrs

Wm Jay Pollock
bruce H. P. Hunt
pleads

H R Lander

U. S. Assay Office
New York

H. R. Sinderman asks for copy
of letters written by him to
the Secy of Treasury and Comp-
troller





U. S. Assay Office
N.Y. Jan 7. 1870.

Dear Sir,

Will you please
forward immediately
to Hon Chas Folsom,
Treasurer of the Assay
Office, say three
copies pamphlets
Mint instructions &
one or two pamphlets

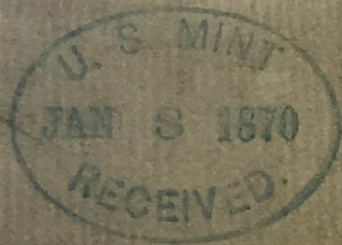
regarding relations to
the Mint. I find
in reading his reply
some on the advance
question that he
needs the above

documents & I have
not time to see him
again today to tell
him to write to you

for them. — In haste
Very truly
Yrs Jas Pollock W Rinderman

U. S. Assay Office
New York

HR Sinderman, wants copies
Mint Instructions and
Mint Laws



Letters: -

To and From Directors

1870

5

to make some remarks upon your idea, of making our silver fractional coins a legal tender in your country, to any amount.

If they have accumulated there in such quantity as to make them capable of standing as the specie basis for your ^{bank circulation and} home payments, there might be wisdom in adopting them for that purpose. They would be more steady, and more valuable, than the paper currency, large or small, which we have had for about ten years; although, ^{they would be} ~~and they~~ unwieldy for large transactions. This effect would follow; that you would have one kind of money for home purchases, and another kind for transatlantic dealings. Gold would be at about four per cent. premium, and of course would not circulate among you. Perhaps it does not now.

I am sorry to hear that your Government contemplates the issue of "skin-plasters," meaning I suppose small notes. We are now suffering from this poor substitute for silver, and anxious to find some way of getting rid of it.

Very respectfully
your obt^d servant

William Brown Esq.

549 Duchesne St.

Montreal, Canada

(P. S. over.)

P.S. I would thank you to inform me what are the relations in your country, by law or custom, between British, Colonial, and United States moneys; and whether you now keep accounts in pounds and shillings, or in dollars and cents.

Also, whether the Canada silver coin of 1858 bears any considerable part in the currency.

And lastly, whether there is any considerable amount of U.S. gold coin in your Banks and Govt Treasury.

British silver coin is 925 fine; ours is 900. But in making comparisons, the weight is also to be taken into account. So then, reducing the terms to a level, and stating the matter as plainly as possible, the same amount of absolute silver, which is made into 66 shillings, is made into $61\frac{2}{3}$ quarter dollars. So you see the error in your supposition, that "we coin more quarters out of a pound of silver than they do shillings in England." And nithal it is added "they pass as the same here."

I believe the foregoing answers all your inquiries, or gives you the means of drawing all the inferences you aim at; but if not, I shall be happy to reply to any further questions.

I will thank you to send me a specimen or two of the new silver coinage, that we may compare it with that which was coined for Canada about 1858. Or, if not different from that, please inform me. — The value of any specimens you send will be returned.

I intended to close here, but upon another reading of your letter, it seems proper

On this basis the English silver currency has stood for many years; and lately, some of the other European nations have been obliged to resort to the same system. Its proper effect is to prevent exportation and hoarding. But all such coinage ought to be restricted in amount; the evils and injustice of over-issue being very manifest.

I am now ready to remark, that if gold is your normal measure of value (or paper interchangeable therewith) it follows that our fractional silver coins cannot justly be made a legal tender "for any amount." And I take for granted, without knowing the standard to be used, in your new silver currency, that it also is over-valued, so as to make it fit only for small payments, or making change.

The market value above mentioned, gives 4 grains silver (900 fine) to the cent. Now divide 384 by 4, and you have 96 cents as the intrinsic gold value of two of our half dollars, or ten of our Dimes. Thus you see they are 4 cents below; but being legally worth 100 cents, they are of course over-valued by 4 per cent.

weight was instituted by law in 1853; and at the same time, such coins were limited in legal tender to five dollars.

Of late years, as you know, the relation between gold and silver has undergone a change in the market of bullion. Consequently our whole silver dollar ~~now~~ sells for more than our gold dollar, by a little over three per cent. The average of sales at London, the great bullion market, shows that one ounce of silver 900 fine, is worth 120 cents in gold of the same fineness. An ounce of gold 900 fine being rated by our law at \$18.60.46, it follows that the relation is about 15.42 to 1. You say $15\frac{1}{2}$, which is near enough.

At the fractional rate of 384 grs. to the dollar, the ounce of silver is, with us, made current for 125 cents, or five cents more than it is intrinsically worth. The object of this over-valuation of silver, you readily understand, was, to keep these fractional coins in their true place; that is, a subsidiary currency; not for large payments, but simply for making "change."

Mint of the United States
April 1870.

Sir,

In framing a reply to your inquiries, under date of 21st April, I am somewhat embarrassed by the want of a clear understanding of the present condition of Canada Currency. - You state that the Government is "trying to drive out the U. S. Silver coins and substitute shingplasters;" and in another place, "we are getting new silver coins from England." - With all this ^{ad}mixture, I take for granted that gold coin, of England, is current ~~without~~ as the chief or normal standard of value.

I shall, however, try to answer your questions clearly, so that you may be able to apply them ^{answers} to the case.

We coin Silver at two rates, or standards of weight. The whole dollar weighs $412\frac{1}{2}$ grains, and contains the same amount of silver as from the beginning of the Mint. The fractions of the dollar, are at the rate of 384 grains (0.80 oz.) to the dollar. Both kinds are 900 fine. The fractional

549 Dorchester St.

Montreal 21 April 1896

The Director of the U.S. Mint

Phila

Sir

In this country there has been for a long time great trouble & loss by a discount of 4 to 5 per cent on the Silver Coin. Of this fact I should suppose you are well aware. Our coins in use are nearly all American. At present this City is in a state of panic about it & are crying down the coins & not taking them at par & so forth.

I proposed to the Government having given much thought to the subject of currency - to make the Silver a legal tender for any payments at par or face value. This course has not been followed, & they are trying with all their might to drive out the coins & substitute cheap planter's. Of course

There has been a great deal of
Newspaper controversy & we are
to have a cross meeting to night.

I am anxious to get further
information than I possess about
the coinage & have thought of
writing you. I took the liberty
to address Mr Bartwell your
Secretary & he very kindly & promptly
replied - still his letter does
not clear up the points to my
mind. Mr. B. says that your
Silver is 1900 fine - weight 384
grs to the dollar & estimating gold
at present to be $15\frac{1}{2}$ times more
valuable than Silver therefore Silver
would be 4% discount ^{if exchange for gold}. Now why
therefore? Can you kindly inform me
how this follows.

If I asked you what is the
intrinsic value of Silver? & what of
Gold? what wd you reply? Is it $15\frac{1}{2}$ to 1?
The present London price wd make it only 14 to 1.
Is it true in your estimation

That silver coin is really
less valuable than gold coin
that is a silver dollar than a
gold dollar? If so, why?

I am aware that in England
a seigniorage of 10 per Cent is
charged on silver coinage &
none on silver. Is it this
which swells the difference -
if there is any difference?

Is my position correct
that silver as a currency, is
of equal value with gold? Is
your proportion of alloy in your
gold coins larger than in silver
as in England? I believe you coin
more quarters out of a pound of
silver than they do shillings in
Engl. They pass as the same here.

Mr Bentham thinks our discount
on the silver is caused by its
redundancy. I have doubt on
this

The point for redundant currency
causes increased prices. I cannot
see how redundancy, so called,
can cause discount or difference
between coins of equal mint
value. Of course I can easily
see how it will cause difference
between excessive issues of
paper & coin in relative value.

We are getting out new Silver
coins from England. I think it
a retrograde step for we can never
have a better silver currency than
the U.S. Do you think this new
silver coin will remain with us?

I will feel greatly obliged if
you will kindly take the trouble
to reply to these points. If you
have any printed mint reports
to send I wd be glad to have them.

I presume I may faithfully yours
make use of your 2
reply in any proper way. Wm Brown

Mr. Brown, Esq.
549 Dufferin St
Montreal, Canada.

Inquires about
the relative and
intrinsic value
of U.S. ~~coins~~
Silver coins &c

Rec^d
ap^r 23/70



United States Treasury.

Boston April 16 1870

Sir:

Your letter of 14th inst relative to the half-eagle of 1858 is duly rec'd. I thank you kindly for your examination and report concerning the coin. I would request that the value \$3.70 might be returned to this Office.

Yours very truly

T. Haven
Asst. Treas. U.S.

Wm. S. Pollock
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

R. Haven Jr

Assistant Treasurer, U. S.

Boston, Apr 16 1870

No. of Papers, —

Subject, Request to return
of bal. of \$2500
sent for examination
and assay. —

(\$370 mailed
April 18, 1870.)



Treasury Department,

Office of Comptroller of the Currency.

Washington, April 24, 1870.

Dear Governor

I am very much obliged
for your letter & tables. The information is
interesting & valuable & shows great thoroughness
in your work. If you can please send
me like tables as to changes of the
smaller pieces gold & silver. Of course
the variations in these pieces will be
more frequent but I have no doubt the
facts will show greater uniformity than
elsewhere & /

I also enclose a table of weights &
with the request that ^{you will} add the figures
for the year 1869. Hulls's Speech
appears in the Globe today. I will send you

a copy. Have you any details of silver variations in
the principal of the English coinage
by table

Enclosed

These tables are
the English tables
or are a currency

Washington

April 19. 1870

John Jay Knox
Depty Comptroller

In reference to Postage &c



United States Assay Office
New York April 20 1870.

Sir:

I have today forwarded to you by Adams Express Co. \$1,860.⁷⁶/₁₀₀ in gold certificates, being the amount received from Mr. Edward Balbach, Jr. for the 52 bbls. San Francisco Branch Mint Sreeps sold to him by your direction.

I also draw on you for \$28.⁶⁰/₁₀₀ in favor of Adams Express Co. for the payment of cartage & cooperage of said Sreeps.

Very Respectfully,

Your Obedt. Servant,

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

Thos. C. Acton
Superintendent.

DOMESTIC BILL OF LADING.

ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY.

Great Eastern,

EXPRESS FORWARDERS.

Western & Southern

No. 3.

\$1860

76

Gold

New-York,

April 20 1870

Received from

Sup'ts Depts Army Office

Chester

Sealed and said to contain

Eighteen hundred and sixty 76 dollar Gold

Addressed

For Jas Pollock Boston U.S. Mint

Upon the special acceptance and agreement that this Company is to forward the same to its agent nearest or most convenient to destination only, and there to deliver the same to other parties to complete the transportation—such delivery to terminate all liability of this Company for such package: and also, that this Company are not to be liable in any manner, or to any extent for any loss, damage or detention of such package, or of its contents, or of any portion thereof, occasioned by the acts of God, or by any person or persons acting or claiming to act in any military or other capacity in hostility to the Government of the United States, or occasioned by civil or military authority, or by the acts of any armed or other mob or riotous assemblage, piracy, or the dangers incident to a time of war, nor when occasioned by the dangers of railroad transportation, or ocean or river navigation, or by fire or steam, unless specially insured by this Company and so specified in this receipt. In no event is this Company to be liable for a greater sum than that above mentioned, nor shall it be liable for any such loss unless the claim therefor shall be made in writing, at this office, within thirty days from this date, in a statement to which this receipt shall be annexed, and the shipper and owner hereby severally agree that all the stipulations and conditions in this receipt contained shall extend to, and enure to the benefit of, each and every Company or person to whom the ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY may entrust or deliver the above described property for transportation, and shall define and limit the liability therefor of such other Company or person.

Freight, _____

For the Company—

W. B. C.

INSURED by ADAMS EXPRESS COMPANY,

for _____ to _____

except against loss occasioned by the public enemy,

For the Company,

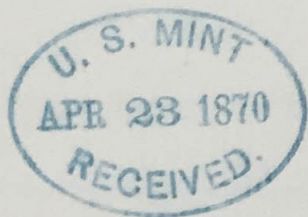
INSURANCE, \$ _____



N. Y. Assay Office

Enclosed Express acct. for
#1860 26 paid for 52 lbs.
Silver. Receipts per Ship
"Guano."





United States Assay Office
New York April 22 1870.

Sir:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of \$28.⁶⁰/₁₀₀ through Adams E. Co., for payment of cartage & cooperage on San Francisco snugs.

I also send herewith a detailed statement of the sale of said snugs, with a copy of the statement of the Treasurer of the Branch Mint sent to me by you, & the bid of Mr. Balbach.

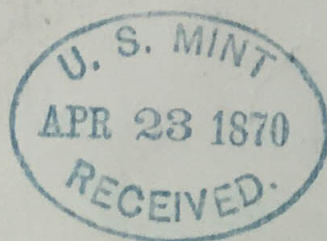
Very Respectfully Yours,

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

Thos. C. Nelson
Superintendent.

N Y Assay Office

Enclosure, Statement
to of Sales of San
Francisco Sweep for
Ship "Jarama."



MINT OF THE UNITED STATES,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT,

Philadelphia, 23. April. 1870

Hon. James Pollock

Director, U. S. Mint

Dear Sir,

I regret to be obliged so often to call your attention to the Silver Deposits, received from the N. Y. Assay Office, but the accounts of the Mint, as well as my own, demand it, & I am sure that this will be a sufficient apology.

Several of the special numbers of deposits in the last few invoices of Silver from N. Y. required toughening at our expense, always attended with expense and loss.

We have been in the practice of accepting the N. Y. weights and assays, having generally found them correct, but formerly some little allowance was made for remains of flux on bars, and other surface impurities, as well as for moisture contained in them. Lately no allowance has been made, and the undoubted

consequence is, that the Mint has paid several ounces more of silver than it has received on some of the late lots from the Assay Office. If the answer to this be that the Assay Office has paid to the Depositor precisely the amount charged to the Mint, our reply is that they have unquestionably overpaid the Depositor.

Very truly yours

J. C. Booth

M. & R.

Jas. C. Boothe
M+N

Complaints of
Silver deposits
from N. Y. assay
Office

Rec'd Apr 23/70

Chief Coiners Department

Employees	Occupation	Compensation	Date of Appointment	By whom Appointed	By what authority paid
M. V. Davis	Asst to Chief Coiner	\$2000 per annum	Appointed Clerk Oct 1865 Asst to Chief Coiner Dec 1866	Director	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
E. Calhoun	Weigher	\$5. per diem	May 1853	" with approval of President, under Act 3. act Jan'y 18. 1837 Little & Brown P. 137	
A. Stief	Asst "	\$4. " "	Nov 1866	Director	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
T Thompson	Counter	\$3.25 " "	Aug 1853	"	
W. S. Barger	"	\$3.25 " "	Nov 1861	"	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
J. E. Dorff	"	\$2.25 " "	Nov 1850	"	
H. S. Garrett	General Foreman	\$4.25 " "	April 1845	"	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
J. S. Bumm	Roller	\$3.25 " "	June 1861	"	
J. Lower	"	\$3.00 " "	July 1830	"	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
W. Banderkerchen	"	\$3.00 " "	April 1861	"	
R. N. Sommers	"	\$2.90 " "	Aug 1864	"	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
J. C. Hunterson	"	\$2.90 " "	Nov 1864	"	
T. H. Wilson	"	\$2.90 " "	Sept 1865	"	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
W. A. R. Smith	"	\$2.90 " "	Me'h 1869	"	
* Wm W. Lyle	"	\$2.90 " "	June 1869	"	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
L. Cooper	"	\$2.90 " "	June 1869	"	
E. W. Rogers	"	\$2.90 " "	June 1869	"	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
F. J. Randall	"	\$2.90 " "	June 1869	"	
R. McCartney	"	\$2.90 " "	June 1869	"	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
F. L. Knight	"	\$2.90 " "	June 1869	"	
* G. Griffen	"	\$2.90 " "	June 1869	"	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
P. A. Voorhees	"	\$2.90 " "	June 1869	"	
C. H. Cake	Annualer	\$3.50 " "	Jan'y 1863	"	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
J. H. Kinsley	"	\$3.00 " "	June 1864	"	
C. Henoyer	"	\$3.00 " "	Sept 1866	"	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
* H. C. Shafer	"	\$3.00 " "	April 1869	"	
* T. A. Meyer	"	\$3.00 " "	June 1869	"	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
A. Leibrick	"	\$3.00 " "	June "	"	
* A. Rule	"	\$3.00 " "	June "	"	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
W. H. Sickels	"	\$3.00 " "	June "	"	
W. H. Barnes	"	\$3.00 " "	June "	"	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
R. Gillespie	Butter	\$3.25 " "	Aug 1864	"	
W. Long	"	\$2.85 " "	Aug 1831	"	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
* J. Noble	"	\$3.00 " "	Aug 1831	"	
J. Briers	"	\$2.90 " "	June 1861	"	Sect 14, Act of April 7, 1866 Little & Brown P. 26
J. S. Thorp	"	\$2.90 " "	Feby 1864	"	

By General Appropriation See Act. approved March 3. 1869 for fiscal year ending June 30. 1870. S. & B. page 54

Also under provisions of Act II and V Act relating to Thrifts and the Coinage of Cents approved Feby 21. 1857. S. & B. page 517

Also under Acts referring thereto as follows:

Act Authorizing the Jaro (2) (white copper) Me'h 3. 1863. " " " 47

Act Authorizing the Jaro (3) (nickel) May 16. 1866. " " " 47

Act Authorizing the Jaro (5) (nickel) " " " 47

Chief Coiners Dept. (Continued)

Employes	Occupation	Compensation	Date of Appointment	By whom appointed	By what authority paid
J. C. Bowen	Cutter	\$2.90. per diem	Sept 1866	Director	
G. Hansell	"	2.90 " "	Jan'y 1869	"	
S. Murphy	"	2.90 " "	May 1868	"	
M. R. Kunder	"	2.90 " "	June 1861	"	
H. G. Weldy	"	2.90 " "	June 1869	"	
* G. C. Clark	"	2.90 " "	" "	"	
J. H. Diependerfer	"	2.90 " "	" "	"	
C. Heritage	"	2.90 " "	" "	"	
D. K. Hartzel	"	2.90 " "	Aug 1869	"	
R. Gilfillan	"	2.90 " "	Sept 1869	"	
D. J. Eschbach	"	2.90 " "	" "	"	
* J. E. Cook	"	2.90 " "	June 1869	"	
J. Reed	Cleaner	3.50 " "	1861	"	
A. Crawford	"	3.00 " "	1861	"	
J. Hayter	"	3.00 " "	1861	"	
F. Scheidt	"	3.00 " "	1861	"	
J. S. Castle	"	3.00 " "	Feb'y 1869	"	
W. Mc Cauley	"	3.00 " "	Oct 1865	"	
A. W. Downing	Coining Room	4.00 " "	Aug 22. 1864	"	
G. W. Helfrich	"	3.50 " "	June 1869	"	
G. Mitchell	"	3.00 " "	April 15. 1864	"	
D. S. Fuller	"	3.25 " "	June 1. 1861	"	
W. Engles	"	3.00 " "	Sept 1. 1862	"	
J. De Barry	"	2.90 " "	June 1869	"	
S. James	Machinist	4.50 " "	Aug 1861	"	
J. Tompkins	"	4.00 " "	1837	"	
A. Fleming	"	3.75 " "	June 1862	"	
* W. G. Caskey	"	3.60 " "	1865	"	
W. H. Webb	"	3.60 " "	May 1869	"	
F. M. Clements	"	3.60 " "	June 1869	"	
W. D. Jones	"	3.10 " "	Oct 1866	"	
W. H. Schlemm	"	1.00 " "	Sept 1869	"	
A. B. Corson	Blacksmith	3.50 " "	June 1861	"	
G. Boner	"	3.00 " "	June 1861	"	
* W. M. Nevil	"	3.00 " "	June 1869	"	
J. M. Hill	"	3.00 " "	" "	"	
C. A. Carpenter	"	3.00 " "	" "	"	

See General Act of Congress quoted on first page

Chief Coiners Dept. (Continued)

Employer	Occupation	Compensation	Appointed	By whom appointed	By what authority paid
J. B. Cowden	Carpenter	\$4.75 per diem	July 1861	Director	
W. G. Samon	"	3.25 "	June 1861	"	
B. I. Buckman	"	3.25 "	July 1861	"	
R. Smith	"	3.00 "	May 1869	"	
R. S. Magee	Painter	3.25 "	Aug 1861	"	
W. F. Gauss	Gas Fitter	3.25 "	June 1869	"	
A. Kilpatrick	Engineer	4.75 "	Aug 1861	"	
A. L. McGinnis	"	3.50 "	1862	"	
J. Clapper	"	3.25 "	June 1861	"	
J. Huntley	"	2.90 "	Dec 1861	"	
X H. Boyer	"	2.90 "	April 1868	"	
W. H. Wakefield	Fireman	3.00 "	Aug 1867	"	
H. Hawkins	"	2.90 "	June 1869	"	
B. Burrass	Ciler	2.90 "	1864	"	
S. L. Graham	Gate Keeper	2.75 "	May 1869	"	
G. W. Brown	"	2.75 "	June 1869	"	
A. Stuart	Sabour	2.85 "	June 1862	"	
X S. Richardson	"	2.60 "	May 1869	"	
H. W. Linn	"	2.75 "	Aug 1867	"	
F. Young	"	2.85 "	June 1861	"	
W. Burman	"	2.75 "	June 1869	"	
J. K. Gardner	"	2.75 "	" "	"	
J. Mitchell	"	2.75 "	June 1869	"	
* J. F. Koch	"	2.75 "	July 1869	"	
S. McMichael	"	2.75 "	Sept 1869	"	
R. Broomall	"				

See general act of Congress quoted on first page

Ladies Roll
Chief Coiners Department

Employes	Occupation	Compensation	Appointed	By whom appointed	By what authority paid
M. Richardson	Coining Room	\$1.75 per diem	Jan'y 1853	Director	
J. A. Cheston	"	" "	May "	"	
M. Almond	"	" "	Dec "	"	
R. A. McManus	"	" "	Jan'y 1855	"	
M. Spafford	"	" "	March 1856	"	
K. Stoy	"	" "	Nov 1857	"	
C. Williams	"	" "	Oct 1858	"	
M. Bailie	"	" "	Nov 1858	"	
E. C. McAllister	"	" "	June 1861	"	
S. A. Byer	"	" "	July 1861	"	
M. J. Bryant	"	" "	July 1861	"	
M. E. Shuman	"	" "	July "	"	
M. J. Dougherty	"	" "	Sept 1865	"	
M. L. Rose	"	" "	" 1866	"	
A. Wilson	"	" "	" 1866	"	
J. Price	"	" "	May 1867	"	
D. Moore	"	" "	July "	"	
M. M. Cross	"	" "	Sept "	"	
E. C. Milligan	"	" "	May 1869	"	
A. L. Bonsall	"	" "	Dec 1868	"	
A. Nebinger	"	" "	Dec 1869	"	
K. Gibbon	"	" "	June 1869	"	
C. Cannon	"	" "	Jan'y 1868	"	
C. Randall	"	" "	June 1869	"	
S. Wagner	"	" "	April 1869	"	
A. L. Trego	"	" "	Feb'y 1869	"	
L. H. Hutton	"	" "	Sept 1869	"	
G. Breidenhart	"	" "	Oct 1850	"	
C. C. Thorn	Adjuster	\$2.25 "	May 1861	"	
R. Barclay	"	\$1.75 "	July 1861	"	
M. Loughridge	"	" "	May 1861	"	
A. L. Robinson	"	" "	Aug 1866	"	
J. Moran	"	" "	Oct 1868	"	
E. Janney	"	" "	Oct 1868	"	
E. Giller	"	" "	Dec 1868	"	
E. F. Meyer	"	" "			

See General Acts of Congress
dated on first page

Ladies Roll (Continued)

Employer	Occupation	Compensation	Appointed	By whom appointed	By what authority paid
E. Thorn	Adjuster	\$1.75. per diem	Dec 1868	Director	
X M. B. Saunders	"	" "	Dec "	"	
L. George	"	" "	Feb 1869	"	
M. Finney	"	" "	April "	"	
E. Shuman	"	" "	June "	"	
E. Bond	"	" "	May "	"	
X S. Davis	"	" "	" 1868	"	
X K. Lee	"	" "	April 1869	"	
X K. Walkinshaw	"	" "	June 1869	"	
R. McCarty	"	" "	" "	"	
X M. Jagers	"	" "	" "	"	
M. H. Griffith	"	" "	" "	"	
A. A. Bannatyne	"	" "	" "	"	
E. Satour	"	" "	" "	"	
M. A. Jones	"	" "	" "	"	
D. Patten	"	" "	" "	"	
X S. Scanlan	"	" "	July 1869	"	
X M. E. Clark	"	" "	Sept "	"	
L. Kretschmar	"	" "	Aug "	"	
D. McLean	"	" "	" "	"	
S. Wade	"	" "	" "	"	
X A. Magill	"	" "	Sept "	"	
M. Lockrey	"	" "	July "	"	
O. Lawrence	"	" "	June "	"	

See Annual Report Congress quoted on first page

Melter and Refiner's Department

Employer	Occupation	Compensation	Appointed	By whom appointed	By what authority, paid
W. B. Boyd	Accountant	\$500 per diem	May 1869	Director	
J. Mirkil ✓	Heigher	500 " "	" 1852	"	
J. Mirkil	Foreman ⁱⁿ Melter	4.50 "	June 1861	"	
W. Chapman ✓	Melter	3.75 "	May 1861	"	
E. H. Walton ✓	Helper	3.75 "	" "	"	
L. Cornelius ✓	"	3.75 "	June 1869	"	
F. C. Garrigue ✓	Lead Foreman ⁱⁿ Silver	4.50 "	" 1861	"	
D. Conoll ✓	Silver Melter	3.50 "	Feb 1857	"	
B. Jones ✓		3.50 "	Nov 1852	"	
E. Harvey ✓	Gold Melter	3.75 "	April 1853	"	
D. Blair ✓	Helper	3.25 "	June 1861	"	
A. White ✓		3.25 "	Sept "	"	
G. W. Summers ✓		3.25 "	April 1849	"	
C. Guyer ✓	Hoister	3.00 "	June 1867	"	
W. Kerlin ✓	Furnace Builder	3.50 "	Dec 1864	"	
J. W. Simpson ✓	Branch Washer	3.50 "	May 1855	"	
J. W. Simpson	"	3.50 "	May 1855	"	
* L. Summers	Foreman Refinery	3.70 "	April 1836	"	
W. G. Summers ✓	Refiner	3.50 "	Nov 1852	"	
W. Peak ✓	Helper	3.50 "	June 1861	"	
G. Wiegand ✓	Cent Cleaner	3.50 "	" 1869	"	
J. Douglass ✓	Plumber	3.25 "	" 1867	"	
J. McQuaide ✓	Bullion Night Watch	2.85 "	" 1861	"	
J. W. Henry ✓	" " "	2.85 "	" 1861	"	
W. Williams ✓	Foreman	3.75 "	" 1862	"	
J. J. Beckman ✓	Melter	3.25 "	Oct 1864	"	
* J. Carson	"	3.25 "	March 1867	"	
G. A. Wagner		3.25 "	Nov 1864	"	
M. Lafty ✓		3.25 "	July 1867	"	
J. G. Morris ✓		3.25 "	June 1869	"	
* J. Donahue	To remove moulds	2.90 "	July 1861	"	
G. Alcorn ✓	" " "	2.90 "	June "	"	
* E. C. Green	" open "	2.90 "	" 1867	"	
* C. Schwartz	" " "	2.90 "	" 1869	"	
U. Armhold ✓	" close "	2.90 "	" 1869	"	
* J. Merchant	" " "	2.90 "	" 1869	"	

See acts of Congress
on first page

Melter and Refiner's Dept (continued)

Employes	Occupation	Compensation	Appointed	By whom appointed	By what authority paid
J Toomey ✓	iron return moulds	\$ 2.90 per diem	June 1869	Director	
J. R. Taylor ✓	Ingot Cleaner	2.90 " "	" "	"	
S. Yoder ✓	" "	2.90 " "	Sept "	"	
J. Haslet ✓	" Filer	2.90 " "	" "	"	
* M. Maher	" "	2.90 " "	Oct "	"	
E. Hughes ✓	" Tapper	2.90 " "	" 1861	"	
G. W. Brooke ✓	Bricklayer	2.90 " "	May 1869	"	
H. F. Nice ✓	Cate Tender	2.90 " "	June "	"	
J. Hanna ✓	" "	2.90 " "	Feby 1862	"	
E. C. Barber	Engineer	4.00 "	1869		
W. H. Hayes	"	6.00 "	1869		
G. Selby	Machinist	5.00 "	Jan 1866		
T. G. Pollock	Boys' driver	6.00 "	May 1861		
A. B. White	Iron druggist	2.00 "	1869		
L. B. Appleton	Boys' driver	2.00 per diem	April 1867	Director	
P. Clavin	"	4.50 "	Aug 1867	"	
C. C. Budgett	Blacksmith	3.00 "	June 1867	"	
B. Hale	Boys' driver	5.50 "	July 1861	"	
G. F. Ireland	Boys' driver	3.50 "	Apr 1866	"	
N. Abell	Boys' driver	4.75 "	1861	"	
R. Baker	Boys' driver	3.50 "	June 1869	"	
J. Bond	Boys' driver	2.75 "	1869	"	

See Acts of Congress on first page

Engravers Department

Employee	Occupation	Compensation	Appointed	By whom appointed	By what authority paid
M. Sprecht ✓	Press Room	\$3.00 per diem	Nov 1864	Director	
J. G. Stuckert ✓		2.90 "	May 1869	"	
G. Wheatley ✓		2.75 "	June 1869	"	
R. Jefferson ✓	Die Room	5.50 "	1862	"	
A. Staub ✓		4.00 "	June 1861	"	
J. Orth ✓		3.50 "	1863	"	
S. Edwards ✓		3.50 "	June 1861	"	
J. McCann ✓		3.50 "	Nov 1864	"	
J. Lower ✓		3.00 "	June "	"	
C. E. Barber ✓	Engraver	4.00 "	1869	Director	
W. H. Keys ✓	"	6.00 "	1864	"	
G. Soley ✓	Machinist	5.00 "	June 1866	"	
J. C. Pollock	^{Supt of} Pay Rolls & Medals	6.00 "	May 1861	"	

See acts quoted on first page

Assayers Department

W. E. Dubois ✓	Asst Assayer	\$2000. per annum	Appointed Director 1833	Director with approval of President, under Sect 3 act Jan'y. 18. 1837. S+B, p. 137	See 14. act. Apl. 7. 1866. S+B 26
J. B. Eckfeldt ✓	Wigher of Gold Assays	\$5.00 per diem	April 1865	Director	
P. Dubois ✓	" " Silver "	4.50 " "	Jan'y 1867	"	
A. Outerbridge ✓	Additional Wigher	3.00 " "	June 1869	"	
C. B. Hare ✓	Foreman of Laboratory	5.50 " "	1830	"	
A. G. Rowland ✓	Workman " "	3.50 " "	Sept 1861	"	
J. W. Abell ✓	Workman " "	3.75 " "	1863	"	
J. Baker ✓	Workman " "	3.50 " "	June 1869	"	
X W. R. Powers ✓	Messenger	2.75 " "	" "	"	

See acts quoted on first page

Directors Roll

Employes	Occupation	Compensation	Appointed	By whom appointed	By what authority paid
N. C. Hickok ✓	Directors Clerk	\$2000 per annum	May 1869	Director with approval of President by Act July 18. 57 L.B. p. 137	By General Appropriation See Act No 3, 1869 for fiscal year ending June 30, 1870 L.B. p. 298
✓ A. J. Kirk ✓	Marant Clerk	500 per day	June 1869	Director	
✓ S. C. Pollock ✓	Register	5.50 " "	May 1869	"	
✓ R. A. McClure ✓	Cabinet	4.25 " "	Dec 1868	"	
✓ E. W. Earl ✓	"	4.00 " "	Feb 1870	"	
✓ J. Butler ✓	"	4.00 " "	May 1869	"	
✓ C. M. Wilkins ✓	"	3.50 " "	June 1869	"	
✓ W. P. Kirk ✓	"	3.00 " "	April 1869	"	
✓ J. J. Money ✓	Messenger	5.00 " "	May 1869	"	
✓ J. K. Vogel ✓	"	4.00 " "	Nov 1867	"	
✓ L. Birnbaum ✓	"	3.00 " "	Aug "	"	
✓ Thor Crosby ✓	Door Keeper	4.00 " "	May 1862	"	
✓ H. E. Rulon ✓	"	4.00 " "	Nov 1865	"	
✓ L. W. Curry ✓	"	4.00 " "	May 1869	"	
✓ E. C. Concanon	"	2.75 " "	May 1866	"	
✓ J. E. Maxwell ✓	Conductor	4.00 " "	Dec 1865	"	
✓ C. Riker	"	4.00 " "	May 1867	"	
✓ G. Hoch	"	4.00 " "	May 1869	"	
✓ W. H. Maurice ✓	"	4.00 " "	" "	"	
✓ W. H. Banks ✓	Night Watch	3.00 " "	May 1869	"	
✓ W. B. Sloan ✓	" "	2.75 " "	" "	"	
✓ C. Harley	" "	2.75 " "	" "	"	
✓ F. M. Koby ✓	" "	2.75 " "	" "	"	
✓ J. C. Newman	" "	2.75 " "	" "	"	
✓ C. W. Steel	" "	2.75 " "	" "	"	
✓ S. Halzell	" "	2.75 " "	" "	"	
✓ R. Stewart	" "	2.75 " "	" "	"	
✓ J. K. Rawlings	" "	2.75 " "	" "	"	
✓ H. Ingham	" "	2.75 " "	" "	"	
✓ W. Young	" "	2.75 " "	" "	"	

Statement
of
Employees of U. S. Mint

March 1870

giving name, occupation, compen-
= sation, date of appointment, by whom
appointed, and under what authority
paid.

number of persons, male and female, paid out of the appropriations of Congress, and from the Cent Coinage fund, and your opinion in reference to a still further reduction of the force employed.

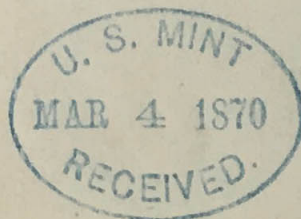
Very Respectfully

Geo. S. Postwell
Secretary of the Treasury

Hon James Pollock
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia Pa

Secy Treasury

Has rec^d Director's
Report of Feb 21. of
Audit of Comptroller with
Working force & Expenses
for last 7 months.
And directs 50 man
discharge & a further
gradual reduction of
employees from time
to time. —



99 persons, leaving the whole number of persons in the Mint not paid out of any direct appropriation of Congress 218. (145 males - 43 females -) and these employees are paid from the balances accruing between the actual cost of the cent coinage and its par value.

As it is probable that the demand for the cent coinage has nearly ceased, the large number of employees now paid from that source should be very greatly reduced, and those really needed upon the gold and silver coinage, or chiefly employed in that way, should be paid from the appropriation of "wages of workmen."

You are authorized to reduce the force to the number of fifty, as you propose, and I am of the opinion that a much larger reduction may be made gradually from those employed upon the minor coinage.

You are requested therefore in addition to the discharge of the fifty persons proposed, to continue the reduction as rapidly as is consistent with the efficient discharge of the different operations of the Mint, reporting to the Department monthly the amount of the gold silver and cent coinage separately, the



Treasury Department.

March 1st 1870

Sir:

I have received your report of the 21st ultimo containing a statement of the business operations of the Mint for the seven months previous to July 21st ultimo, and the number of Employees engaged in the manufacture of the gold and silver and the minor coinage, from which I find that the number of Employees in the Mint during the month of January was Males 334, females 13, total 347, and that the average amount paid to Employees including Officers and Clerks engaged on the gold and silver coinage was \$11,328.68, and on the minor coinage \$15,499.99. The amount of minor coinage executed in December was \$15,440. and during the month of January \$33,845. So that it is probable the expense of the manufacture of that coinage, including the material, was nearly equal to its par value. On the pay rolls for the month of January, on file in the Department, to which you refer, I find the names of 86 Males, and 13 females, total

United States Treasury.
New York

March 1st 1870

Sir

Enclosed please find two five cent coin, on which I ask your opinion as to their genuineness; There are doubts in regard to them; they being different from the majority of pieces presented for redemption, and yet unlike in some respects, the pieces you pronounced counterfeit about a month ago. There appears to be a great variety of the five cent coin afloat; we have two kinds of spurious coin, and some of us think there may be more. These are different in color and have a somewhat different die from those we know as base and genuine.

We would

like your opinion of them, as we
have no other way to determine or
decide the doubt about them. An
early answer will oblige

Yours Respectfully
R. C. Haff

To
The Director of U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

R. C. Haff
New York
March 1/70.

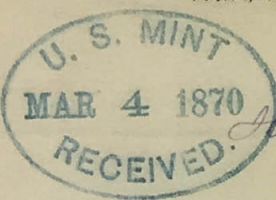
Enclosing 2 five cent
coins. Doubts as to their
genuineness

Königlich dansk Gesandtskalt

Washington, D. C.

Royal Danish Legation in Washington

March 2. 1870.



Hon. H. A. Linderman

Director of the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia.

Sir,

The Royal Danish Cabinet of Medals in Copenhagen is very desirous to complete its collection of american medals, of which it presently possesses but the following five

1. & 2. Washington 1790 & 1805; 3. Admiral Prebble 1804; 4. The outlet from Lake Erie to the Atlantic 1826; 5. Paxton, the Exhibition of 1852. —

Being requested to inquire whether and to which extent this end can be reached with the, presently, very limited funds of the Cabinet, I take the liberty to address myself to you on this subject.

I would, indeed, be much obliged to you for furnishing me a list of the medals struck at the mint and there to be purchased; and for marking out of the number those, which you, with your special knowledge, would judge the most fitted to represent the american serie of medals in our collection from a scientific numismatic standpoint; finally to indicate the price of each medal in a well struck bronze copy without case.

I beg leave, Sir, to offer you beforehand my thanks for the information you may be kind enough to give me, and remain.

very respectfully
your obed. servant

F. Wille
Danish minister.

Danish Legation
Washington D.C.

Ask for List &
price of Medals
for the Cabinet
at Copenhagen.

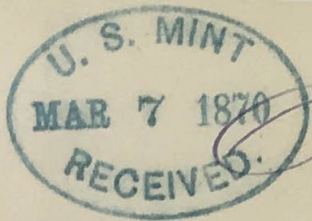
ans. Mar 4/70

50 per cent off



Kongelig dansk Gesandtskab

Washington, D. C.



Danish Legation.

Washington D.C. March 5th 1870.

Sir,

I am very gratified at the prompt and obliging answer you have given to my request concerning the acquisition of American medals for the Danish Collection. I shall lose no time in communicating it to the Director of the Cabinet in Copenhagen and shall take the liberty to address myself to you on his behalf as soon as I receive his reply.

I am, Sir,

Very respectfully.

F. Hille
Danish Minister R.

Hon J L Pollock

Director of the U.S. Mint.

Philadelphia.

Hon. F. T. Billie
Danish Minister
Washington D.C.

Act'g offr & sell
Pruss Medals at
50 per cent discount.

Will advise the
Minister of the Danish
Cabinet of export and
import.



Mint of the United States.

Philadelphia March 7 1870

Hon. James Pollock

Director to.

Dear Sir

Two specimens of five-cent nickel coin, forwarded to you from the U. S. Treasury at New York, and supposed to be spurious, have been submitted to all the tests which come within my province. One was about one grain heavy, the other about one grain light. Good pieces may vary this much. — Both were of the right specific gravity. — Both contained the right proportion of nickel and copper, by assay.

The only remaining question is, whether they were struck in the Mint, from genuine dies. This point, of course, will more properly be settled by other officers of the Mint. So far as my examination goes, the pieces are right.

I may add, that the slight coloring on the surface may be produced by various

sorts of contact, or handling; in particular, a carrying in the same pocket, with gum-elastic bands, or sulphurous matches.

Very respectfully
your obt^d servant
J. R. Eckstelar
Assayer

Chief Coiner's Dept. Mch. 7. 1870

Hon. James Vollock

Director U. S. Mint

Sir

Having examined one half of one of the Five Cent Nickel Copper Coins, referred to in the above report of the Assayer, I have to state that I am satisfied it was struck from genuine dies in this Department of the Mint.

Very respectfully

Your Obt^d Servt.

Roudon Snowden
Chief Coiner

Rec^d March 8/70

Washington, D. C.

March 7th 1870.

Hon. James Pollock,
Director U.S. Mint,
Sir

On the 1st March Mr Reptha
Secretary of the Helmick Silver Mining Co. sent by Ad-
ams Express Co. a Silver brick, Marked,

549. 03. 410 fine. - Coin Value (Silver) \$292.⁶⁶/₁₀₀
Gold \$36.⁶⁵/₁₀₀ Total Value \$328.⁷¹/₁₀₀

The assay's Certificate from the Mint states
as follows, 2^o March. 542.⁵⁵ before melting

541.⁷⁰ after "

338. fine

\$249.²¹ yield differing from
the ^{one} sent us from Georgetown, Colorado, \$79.⁵⁰/₁₀₀.

I write you to ascertain if possible why this
difference appears? as the assay in Col. is from a
well known smelting works, Stewart & Co.

The Mint being the highest standard of
accuracy we have concluded that by possibility there
might be some mistake as to the identity of the brick,
sent by us, as the assay of Stewart & Co's assayer has been

maintained a good reputation as to Capacity &c, and
we wish to be ^{certain} positively before we inform Messrs Stewart
& Co. of this great discrepancy in a well known & well
reputed establishment.

It will be perceived that a difference of nearly
86 per cent. exist. and your assayer reports no gold in the
bar, when the assay of S. & Co. pay \$36 ⁶⁵/₁₀₀.

Please to let me hear from you on the
subject at an early date.

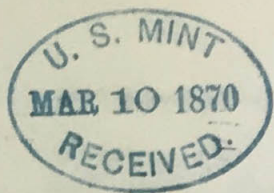
Yours very truly
S. A. Peugh

S. A. Peugh,
Washington D.C.

Sendy ditto
Buck for
Georgetown, D.C.
to be assayed &
determine its real
value

Ans - Met 9/70

Res^d Met 9/70



Treasury Department,

Office of Comptroller of the Currency.

Washington, March 8, 1870.

My Dear Sir

~~Excuse an informal letter-~~

The stock of silver coin in the office of the Com. Treas. Phil. is small. Would you prefer to be authorized to purchase silver with \$30,000 gold now in the bullion fund: or if that fund \$1,002,429.16 is not large enough, would you prefer to buy silver bullion with \$30,000 gold to be transferred instead of silver coin. I suppose the result in the end would be the same but at present there would be a profit on the silver purchase.

In buying silver now at the Mint do you pay only in silver coin: if not what

rule des guerres. Are deposits of silver received
at the Mint payable in silver coins? Does Sec
4 page 41 Mint pamphlet require silver coins to be
paid out only for gold at par? Can you
send me copy of "regulations" for transmission
of silver coins to "Art Treas & other officers of
U.S." as provided in the same sections?

We are having letters making various
inquiries relative to silver coinage & I wish
to be intelligent on these subjects & you will
be much obliged me if you will send
me this information.

I am Very Truly Yours

Frederick Douglass

Wm James Pollock

Director of the Mint

Philadelphia

John Jay Knox
Adj Genl Camp
Washington D.C.

Inquires about
the best place
to purchase
silver for the
Bullion fund



(Copy)

Fowanda Pa
March 22. 1870

Hon G. S. Boutwell
Dear Sir

I would be much obliged
to you if you would inform me by what
authority the Director of the Mint at Philad^a
sells the three sets of the pattern pieces of the
50., 25 and 10, cts denominations for \$3.00,
when he charges collectors for the same coins
\$15.00

Hoping to receive an early reply

Yours Respectfully
(Signed) Rodney A. Mercur

Rodney A. Mercer
Towanda Pa

to

Sec'y Treasury

Charging Director of
the Mint with irreg-
ularity in the sale
of samples of the
prepared new silver
coinage

(Copy)

Bath N.Y. Mar. 14. 1870

Supt. U. S. Mint:

Sir:

Will you please inform me, whether I can procure from your office, Amer. Silver dollars, for the years 1839-1861-1865-1869 & 1870 - If so, please advise me how much I shall remit, to buy one of each, and in what form to remit. In answer please direct to me at Bath, Steuben Co. - N.Y.

Yours very truly
Wm. H. Shepard

Wm. H. Shepard

Mar 14/70

For silver dollar.
of certain year.

Rec^d Mar 16/70

on of them too a few more



March 10th 1870

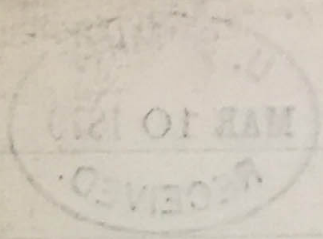
to Hon. S. Pollock

Sir

I have examined the Designs for a Medal, sent from New Hampshire, with reference to forming an estimate, for Engraving Dies and striking Medals in Silver and Copper, as directed by you,

I consider to engrave the Dies will now cost £250. The Medals in Bronze will cost from \$1²⁵ to \$1⁷⁵ each. The Silver, (not knowing the exact weight I cannot arrive at so closely) I would say therefore from \$5. to \$6. each. The time of execution. I would like to be allowed as much as they could spare to suit their time of using them, and would engage, to be punctual to that. Yours, Respectfully
Wm Barber, Engraver

Wm Barber
Esq. U.S. Mint



Gives Estimated
Cost of Dies & Medals
for N. H. State Age
Soc.



Denver
U. S. Branch Mint,

Charlotte, N. C., March 14th 1870

Hon. Jas. Pollock

Director U. S. Mint

Sir

Your letter of the
9th inst. in relation to an "Eagle Stamp"
for the Denver Br. Mint, was received
on the 11th inst.

No package has been received to date.
Inquiry has been made to day at Ex. Office.

Very Respectfully

Your Obedt. Servt.

Calvin J. Cowley
Payee

Charlotte Belmont

Has not rec^d the
"Eagle" Stamp for the
Helen Belmont.

Rec^d Nov 17/70

Mint of the United States.

Philadelphia, March 14. 1870

Dear Sir,

Herewith I return the papers concerning Mr. Miller's process for refining gold, with some remarks as you requested.

The method is neat, ingenious, and carefully studied; and shows an advanced skill in metallurgy.

I consider it well adapted for cases where the gold is of high fineness, but mixed with such refractory alloys as antimony, arsenic, tin, & other ^{similar} metals, in however minute proportion. No doubt it is well suited to the gold of Australia, for those reasons; and it might be for the higher grade of Nova Scotia gold. But the general scope of fineness in our own mines, is say from 750 to 900; so that to chloridize so large a proportion of silver

contained in the gold, would greatly increase the cost of labor and materials, and the waste of silver.

Moreover, a large proportion of silver raised in our mines, contains a little gold, and it is highly advantageous to use a process of parting which admits of combining goldish silver with silvery gold. This would not answer, with the chlorine process.

The suffocating and noxious fumes of chlorine gas, more terrible even than those from sulphuric acid operations, furnish a very serious objection, because no precaution can prevent some escape.

I observe that there is a good deal of nice and critical detail, which could not be trusted to any but a superior workman, thereby increasing the expense.

I am somewhat surprised that nothing is said about the expense, or economy, of the process. This is a matter of prime importance. I presume it is expected to be cheaper than the methods now in use, but this can only be settled by the figures, with allowance for loss of metals.

Our Melted & Refiner will of course decide whether it is expedient to make experiments with this process.

I take occasion to add, with reference to this process, and the somewhat similar one known as Bessemer's method for making steel, that for silver refining, especially such bars as we get from Nevada, it might be worth while to try a current of oxygen, much in the same way, instead of using nitre, or other oxidizing agents. It is only the oxygen that we want; and this can be generated and used in manipulation without any annoyance or injury. This however is merely a postscript, not essentially connected with the subject in hand.

Very respectfully

J. R. Eccles
Assayer

The Director of the Mint.

J. R. Eckfeldt
Assayer Assistant
~~Mint of the United States.~~

~~Philadelphia,~~ 18

~~No. of Report,~~

Subject, *Opinion on*
Miller's process
of refining and
separating gold
& silver. —

Recd

Mar 14/70

gerous in loss of metal. Still further, there is a very large amount of Silver deposited, containing very little gold. Both cost and danger would entirely exclude such metal from refining under this Patent, and yet it is precisely such as is specially adapted to the usual refining processes. In this case therefore the two processes ~~would~~ have to be conducted side by side, which would, to say the least, be exceedingly inconvenient.

7. Far more operative skill, and both constant and penetrating watchfulness, combined with some chemical knowledge, would be demanded of those conducting the chlorine process, and such a combination it would not be easy to command.

From the above views, and their detailed grounds you will gather that I cannot recommend the process of the Patent, as one that might be substituted for our own, or the Sulphuric process. To sum up, I would say

I would say, that the Chlorine process is inferior to our own in its being dangerous to health, more liable to cause loss of bullion, and not at all adapted to the mixed character of our deposits, which average a considerable surplus of silver containing little gold.

I have omitted all consideration of cost, as that does not seem to have been presented, but I would remark on this, that altho' the chlorine process in certain cases might prove more economical than our own, yet that to estimate such cost rightly, we would have to determine, by long & repeated trials, with all kinds of deposits, the losses resulting from the chlorine process, which in my opinion would render the process a very expensive one for our use, or in the branch mints.

Respectfully yours

J. H. Booth

Prof J. L. Booth
M. & R.

Opinion on
F. B. Miller's
process for refining
& separating gold and
silver. —

Rae
Mar 24/70

Much more loss occurs, if any other gas or vapor is transmitted through the gold or silver, at the same time, while in a current of air. Such is the case in this Patent, where chlorine is passed through, while the melted metal is in a draft of air, in order to avoid the escape of noxious chlorine, or even of muriatic acid.

In the case of mixed muriatic acid and air, which is the alternative in the Patent, and designed to be virtual chlorine, much larger volumes of gas pass through the melted metal, insuring still greater loss than chlorine itself.

4. Another cause of volatilization lies in the volatility of chloride of silver, which it is the main object of the Patent to produce, a volatility which the Patent itself admits, as occurring, and as carrying gold with it. The Patent claims the recovery of the silver & gold from the chloride, but it appears certain to me that a certain, though very small

very small, amount would escape condensation and recovery?

5. But gold is associated with other metals at the same time as with silver, & may contain one or more of the ordinary metals, tin, copper, lead, antimony, iron, &c. Now the chlorides of all these are volatile in the presence of air, & some of them at a moderate temperature, apart from or with the air. Their volatilization would necessarily cause that of gold & silver, in quite appreciable quantities.

6. Beside the above, are other objections. The process might be adapted to an alloy consisting of nearly all gold, with but little silver, but there is a large amount of gold deposited, in which it forms not more than one half the alloy, & since one half the mass or more must be converted into chlorides by the process, the latter becomes far more expensive, & also far more dangerous

U. S. Mint

Melting & Refining Department

Philad^a 14. March, 1870.

Hon. James Pollock

Director of the U. S. Mint

Dear Sir,

At your request I herewith offer
my opinion on M^r F. B. Miller's process for Refining
and Separating Gold & Silver.

I. Its advantages are:

1. Its not requiring Silver to be melted with Gold,
as in the usual processes, but taking the gold in the
form of melted bars
2. Its directly separating gold and silver, in a
shorter time than usual.

II. Its objectionable features are:

1. It employs clay crucibles, which are very inferior
in strength to Black lead Pots, and being liable
to fracture in the fire, they endanger the spread
of the metals.

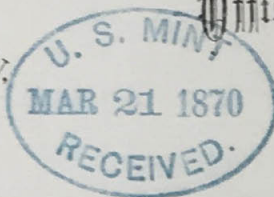
of the metals

through the fire, to their injury & loss, for it is rare that all can be recovered from coal, ashes & grate bars.

2. It employs a gas, chlorine, which is dangerous to life and health, even in a diluted state, and, as a manufacturer, who has used it, I affirm that it is difficult to avoid the odor of chlorine in the vicinity of the apparatus where it is either generated or used. Hence the substitution in the arts generally of the chloride of lime for bleaching, instead of chlorine, on the score of human safety.

3. The Chlorine process endangers volatilization, & that from several points of view. When melted gold or silver is kept in the furnace, with the usual draft of air passing over it, there is always a loss of the metal by volatilization, exceedingly minute with gold, but quite appreciable with silver.

SEWALL H. FESSENDEN.
AGENT.



Office of the Boston and Sandwich Glass Company,

No. 26, FEDERAL STREET,

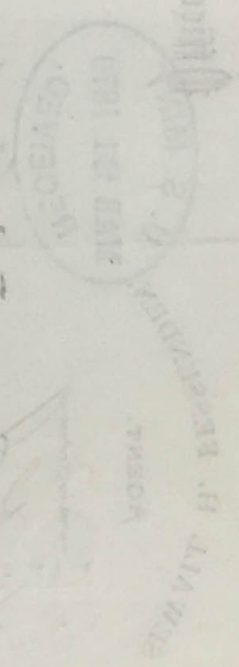
Boston, March 14 1874

Mr. James Pollock
Director U.S. Mint

Dear Sir
I have from of 12th. Mr. Warburton
advising me they had always charged,
an advance over our mind price, in
consequence of the Govt. not paying for
packages, freight & drays &c. - Which
was perfectly proper for him to do
as he acts as our agent. & can
be an advance price, no charge if he
thinks it for our interest to do so -
I will please pay him the
amount of his bill & will
I W. Fessenden Agt

Boston & Sandwich
Glass Company

Approving Mr.
Starbuckers bill.



REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE OF
WAYS AND MEANS

Washington D.C. March 17th 1870

Dear Sir

The accompanying bill is intended to express the views of Mr Ruggles, late Commissioner of the United States to the international Coinage Conference in Paris.

Will you do me the favor to examine it, and send me any criticisms or objections that may occur to you. In most of its details it conforms with the present law, some of which your experience may have led you to desire to have modified or changed.

Yours respectfully,

Wm. W. Phelps

To the Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Hon

W

Bill on International
Coinage for inspection &
opinion



Officers of Mint

Greenville S.C.
March 15th 1870

I send you
a coin of 1832

You will please remit its
value
Respt C. H. Waters

C. F. Waters
Greenville S.C.
Enclosing coin
of 1832

Mar. 15/78
Coin returned
Mar 21/78

J. C. P.



Secy Treasury

Transmits accusation
of R. A. Mercur, of
irregularities in the
Sale of sample coins



J.H.C.

Treasury Department
April 8th 1870

Respectfully referred to the
Director of the Mint who will
please reply to the letter.

J. H. Conway
Acting Secretary Treasury



M 458,



Elko March 23. 70

Director of U.S. Mint
Philadelphia Pa

Dear Sir,

We have
been referred to you for information in
regard to the coinage of Silver Dollars
by the U.S. Mints, specimens of which
we have just received from Carson.

Be so kind as to inform us, Why are these
pieces occasionally coined?

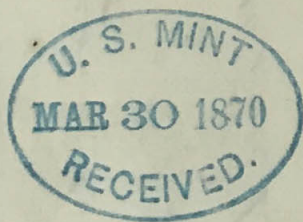
Why do not the U.S. Mints coin and put into
general circulation the Silver Dollars?

Why and how are they made worth $\frac{1}{2}$ cent
more than two $\frac{1}{2}$ Dollars, by legalizing or
more weight?

Yours Respectfully
C. W. Tappan

C. W. Fappan
Elko
Nevada

Wants to know
why the Mint
does not put
whole silver dollars
in to general cir-
-culation - and the
reason for the greater
value on the small
denominations.





United States Treasury,

Philadelphia, March 24th 1870

Dear Sir

In response to the request which you made of me at our interview this morning, I have the honor to inform ^{you} that the balance in Silver coin at this office at the close of business yesterday was \$86,754.00.

I am not prepared to say exactly what proportion is new pieces but I think I am within bounds when I state that there are \$9,000.00 entirely new, having been made for this office at the Mint out of foreign pieces sent here from New Orleans in accordance with orders from Washington. The Coin Teller is of the opinion that in addition there are several thousand dollars of new pieces coined since 1866 that have been very little circulated; so that in all we have probably from \$13,000.00 to \$15,000.00 of new silver that could be made available for your purposes.

I am Sir very respectfully
Your obedient servant

C. C. Cress
Asst. Treas. U.S.

Hon James Pollock
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia
Pa.

United States Treasury.

Philadelphia, 18

Assistant Treasurer, U. S.

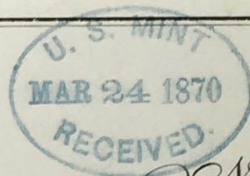
Amt of "New Silver"
coin on hand



SECOND.

No. 310

COIN.



United States Treasury.

New York, March 23, 1870

I Certify, That Chas. J. Folger, Treasurer
U. S. Assay Office, N.Y.,
this day deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States
Thirteen thousand six hundred & sixty three $\frac{14}{100}$
Dollars, on account of Transfer of available profits to Dec 31, 1869,
pursuant to Act of Congress of July 20, 1868
for which I have signed triplicate receipts.

G. C. 10,742.32
S. C. 2,920.89

\$13,663 $\frac{14}{100}$

Chas. J. Folger
Assistant Treasurer, U. S.



United States Assay Office
New York Mch. 23 1870.

Sir:

Pursuant to instructions
contained in your letter of Nov. 7th 1868, I
enclose Asst. Treasurer's receipt No. 310 for
\$13,663 $\frac{14}{100}$ "Available Profits" covered into the
Treasury this day upon my warrant.

J. H. C. Acton
Superintendent.

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia,
Penn.^a

N. Y. Assay Office

Report \$13,668¹⁴/₁₀₀ of
"available profits" con-
-tributed to the Treasury
U. S. in per cent certificate
Enclosed

(See B. Mint L.B.
1868 page 80.)



Washington March 24/90

My dear Sir,

I wish that you would
review the figures you gave me for the
limits on Weighings for delivery to the
Treasurer (Subintendent) you proposed
 $\frac{1}{100}$ on each \$1000 - of any denomination
folded. It answers very well for other
denominations than the Double Eagle
& Eagle particularly the former which
constitutes $19/20$ ths of the Coinage
for example.

$$1000 \text{ D. E.} = \$20,000 \quad \text{existing limit } 30.15 = \$2.78$$

$$\text{proposed limit } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 50 \\ 20 \\ 1000 \end{array} \right\} \quad \frac{1000}{20} \frac{1000}{100} = \$3.72$$

If the above calculation is correct
you will perceive that you have increased
instead of diminished the limit. ~~of the~~
~~coin~~ An average contraction of the
limit, ^{on the various great coins,} has of course no bearing on the
case, as the weighing by draft of
a number of pieces is intended as
a check against a weight of single
pieces uniformly below the standard
although within the limits. It was

Washington

Feb 24. 1870

H. R. Linderman

In reference
to Mint Bill

figured out by one of the clerks
of the department who has charge
of statistics &c and the result
rather perplexed me, as the
present limit is certainly sufficient.

I will endeavor to hold the
Bill until your reply is received,
although it is now ready with
the exception of the limit on drafts
of gold, to be laid before the
Secretary.

You can see the English
Copper Act 1870 in the hands
of Mr. du Bois. — Examine the
Schedule of Weights & Measures
to which is a part of the
act.

Truly Your Friend
H. Robinson

A. Lowan Sumner &
Cheffins
U.S. Mint. }



W&C
Treasury Department,

March 24th, 1870.

Sir:-

I will thank you to send me by return
mail twenty five of the Circulars of the U. S.
Mint under date of May 30th 1867 - headed
" Public Notice - Purchase of Nickel - Copper Cents -

Very Respectfully

L. T. Hartley

Asst. Secretary

Hon. James Pollock

Director U. S. Mint

Sec'y Treasury

Wants 25 nickel
copper circulars of
May 30. 1867.

Correspondence
U. S. Mint
also of
Branch Mints.

March 1870.



SEWALL H. FESSENDEN.
AGENT.

Office of the Boston and Sandwich Glass Company,

No. 26, FEDERAL STREET,



Boston, March 25 1870

Hon James Pollock

Dear Sir

Yours of the 17th inst
is received, we enclose to you statement
of account in duplicate accepted as
requested.

Please remit the amount by mail
I much oblige

Yours Truly

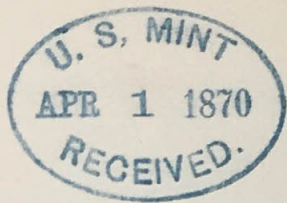
Sewall H. Fessenden Cyt
W. B. Fessenden

Boston & Sandwich Glass Co
Boston Mass

Statement of a/c receipts

3. 1870





Treasury Department,

March 28th, 1870..

Sir:

I would thank you to furnish for the use of
this Department one hundred ounces (100 oz.) granu-
lated silver, which you will please forward to L. C.
Walker, Photographer, U. S. Treasury Department.

Very Respectfully

Geo. S. Boutwell.

Secretary of the Treasury

James Pollock, Esq.

Director U. S. Mint.

Philadelphia,

Penna.

Secy Treasury

Wants 100 ozs.
granulated Silver for
photographs of Reaiz
Dept.



Mint of the United States,

MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, 29. Mar. 1870

Hon. James Pollock

Director U. S. Mint

Dear Sir,

As I hoped and believed that a considerable proportion of the Addition to our Bullion Fund would be fine silver, I have used up all our fine silver from Refining gold. for filling orders for Fine bars. Now shall I be able to make more fine silver, while winding up my accounts, because it would prolong that operation, which is generally a tedious period of six weeks, to more than two months.

May I therefore ask you to make an exchange with the N. Y. Assay Office, if practicable, of Silver coin of any desired denomination for their fine silver of not less than 998½ fineness, & to the amt. of about \$10,000? I think that this
amount

will be sufficient to meet demands for
fine silver bars, during the period of
our settlement.

Very truly Yours
J. C. Booth
M. & R.

Prof. Booth, M. & R.

Wants \$10,000 in
fine Silver bars, ~~not~~
from N.Y. assay office,
not less than 998½ fine
in exchange for Silver
Coin - audit annual
settlement is made

Recd M^{rs} 29/70



United States Assay Office
New York Mich. 30 1870.

Sir:

In reply to your inquiry whether a transfer of fine Silver can be made from this Office, in exchange for Silver Coin, I am sorry to be obliged to say that such an exchange will be impossible, for the reason that we have no fine Silver on hand.

Respectfully Yours,

Thos. C. Weston
Superintendent.

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.
Pa.

N. Y. Assay Office

Has no fine
Silver - & cannot
therefore make an
Exchange for coin.



U.S. MINT GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE 1870/MARCH - APRIL

U.S. MINT GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE 1870/JULY - AUGUST

Requisition 3rd Qr. 1869.

forwarded July 13th 1869

Salaries ✓ 1,800.00

Wages of Workmen 3,429.00

Incidental Expenses ✓ 1,000.00

Total ~~~~~ \$6,229.00

Am't received from Treas'y Dept. July 31st 1870. \$6,229.00

Requisition 4th Qr. 1869

forwarded Oct. 1st 1869

Salaries. ✓ \$1,800.00

Wages of Workmen. 3,829.50

Incidental Expenses. ✓ 1,500.00

Total. ~~~~~ \$7,129.50

Am't received from Treas'y Dept. Oct. 20th 1869. \$7,129.50

Requisition 1st Qr. 1870.

forwarded Jan'y 1st 1870

Salaries. ✓ \$1,800.00

Wages of Workmen. 4,160.00

Incidental Expenses. ✓ 1,500.00

Total. ~~~~~ \$7,460.00

Am't received from Treas'y Dept. Jan'y. 24th 1870. \$7,460.00

April 1st 1870

Requisition for unexpended balances of former appropriations,

Wages of Workmen \$5,000.00

Incidental Expenses ✓ 5,000.00 \$10,000.00

Received April 23rd \$10,000.00

over

+

Requisition 2⁵ gr. 1870.
forwarded May 12th 1870

Salaries
Wages of Workmen
Total

✓ \$1,800.00
\$81.50
\$2,381.50
2,001.50
\$380.00

Amt recd. from Treasury Dept June 15th 1870.
difference between amt. asked for & amt recd.



United States Treasury.

Boston, Aug^t 2^d 1870.

Sir,

I have the honor to submit herewith
for your opinion, a coin purporting to
be a gold half-eagle of the issue of
1858 "C" and which is about two grains
light.

I am Very Resp^t
Your Obt Serv^t
F. Haven
Asst. Treas^y.

To the
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

Sp. gr. 17.51

Asst Secy U S.
Boston, Mass,

Enclosing light
weight $\frac{1}{2}$ Eagle
1858 "C" for ex-
amination.





United States Assay Office
New York Aug. 2nd 1870.

Sir:

I send enclosed my requisition
upon the Secretary of the Treasury for
Seventy thousand dollars, viz:

For Salaries of Officers & Clerks,	\$15,000.
" Wages of Workmen	40,000.
" Incidental & Contingent Expenses	<u>15,000.</u>
Total	<u>\$ 70,000.</u>

I have deemed it advisable, to save trouble at the department, to make semi-annual, instead of quarterly requisitions, as heretofore practised.

Will you have the goodness to forward the enclosed requisition at your earliest convenience, with your official approval?

Very Respectfully,

Your Obedt. Servant.

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia,
Penn.

J. C. Acton
Superintendent.

U. S. Assay Office, N.Y.

Enclosing requisition
for \$70,000.



Assay office, U. S. Mint
August 3. 1870.

Hon: James Pollock

Director & &
Dear Sir

Herewith we return the papers laid before you by M^r. Garbett, agent of Mr. Francis Bowyer Miller of Sydney, patentee of the Chlorine Refining Process. We have kept copies of the more important parts.

The more we consider this Invention, the more we are convinced that it is a great advance in the art of Gold-Refining. It is so in both divisions; of refining out base and intractable metals; and of refining out the silver alloy, commonly called Parting. On this latter we would particularly offer a few remarks, rather as a matter of record than for any present use; although ~~they~~^{the subject} may have a present ~~seem~~ significance, in respect to the proposed changes at San Francisco.

Certainly this method will not be available for the parting of goldish silver; nor where there is a considerable presentation of silver containing gold in a non-paying proportion, but ^{affording that much} ~~a~~ clear gain when mixed with gold for parting. In such cases we cannot do better than we are doing, under the improved combination of nitric and sulphuric acids as practised in the Assay Office at New York; unless our Melters & Refiners find a still better combination, by experiments now pending, and of which it is possible readers here never ~~are~~ ^{will} be aware.

But in the Parting of Silvery Gold, say of the fineness 750 to 960 (which range includes nearly all the gold raised in the world) this Process presents two striking advantages, if we may rely upon the evidences before us, without our own trial; and we have no doubt that the evidences are to be relied upon.

First, it is a direct and compact operation. There is no adding of nearly twice the weight, or nearly four times the bulk, of silver, merely to separate the atoms of gold, to allow the acid to act. It was this necessity which led to the suggestion of the "Zinc Process," or using Zinc instead of Silver; which proved to be no process at all, except of sending gold up the chimney in zincose fumes.

But to be dissolving so much silver every time, merely to get at the little silver shut in by the gold, is a large and clumsy operation, where there is nothing to be gained by using silver containing more or less gold. A direct attack upon the gold only, is then a great improvement, and a fine triumph of science and art. We were naturally suspicious of it at first, but now believe it will do honor to the skill of the inventor.

Secondly, it is a wonderfully cheap operation. It has become so by progressive steps. At first it was estimated to cost five farthings, say $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents, per ounce. A detailed and minute statement for the whole year 1869, at the Sydney Mint, of operations

to a large amount, brings the expense down to 1.4 cents, and this includes all the waste of gold and silver, and an allowance of wear and tear of the fixtures and apparatus, ("the Plant") rated at ten per cent. per annum. But the diminution would be still greater, at the prices here, as compared with prices at Sydney. They pay less than we do in wages; but a great deal more for fuel and acid; and about ~~the~~ on a par for melting pots and minor appliances. So that, by making a calculation in detail, we find that the same work ^{with the same allowances} could be done here for $1\frac{1}{3}$ cents (gold) per ounce. This is marvellous economy, and completely throws the nitric and sulphuric processes into the back ground.

There is one offset however, which must be mentioned. This mode of refining does not make a higher average than 993, leaving 7 thous. of silver in the gold. Mr. Mason's fine bars are generally 998 to 999; a most admirable result indeed. There is then a loss of silver, equal to about $\frac{2}{3}$ of a cent on the ounce, which must be added to the above expense, making 2 cents per ounce. (This has nothing to do with the waste of silver in the state of chloride, which has already been deducted, as above.)

Against this cost, 2 cents, compare the Mint rate of 5 cents, and the rate of 8 cents, at which the San Francisco Refining Company offers to do the parting for the Branch Mint there.

Another point, and a very interesting and practical one, ~~remains~~^{is next} to be presented.

Taking your last Annual Report, and observing the general range and character of gold and silver deposits at Philadelphia, New York, and San Francisco, we find as follows.

1. At the Philadelphia Mint, the greater part of the bullion received is nearly or quite ready for casting into ingots for coining. In the year 1868-9, we had not over 90,000 ounces of gold requiring to be parted, against 140,000 ounces of unrefined silver, part of which contained more or less gold. These two amounts are not far from the proportion of trituration, and there would be not much gained by introducing a process for operating on the gold only. We might however, have the Plant on hand, ready for a turn of affairs.

2. At the New York Assay ~~the~~ Office, the case is very different. They had say 500,000 ounces of gold containing silver (native bullion) and about 560,000 ounces of silver, of original product, much of it containing a little gold. Now supposing (for it is not important to be exact) that they had 400,000 ounces of silver which ought to be used in parting, that would be met by less than 200,000 ounces of gold to be mixed with it. So that there would be a surplus of over 300,000 ounces gold, having no silver to put with it, except by working the stock over and over; reducing, and pressing, & ~~granulating~~ melting and granulating, merely to get a material. All this work and cost would be avoided, by using the

direct process for gold. It is not a question of saving for the Government, because the law obliges us to charge no more than it costs, and we are by fair implication, bound to find out and employ the cheapest method. But it is quite a consideration for depositors of gold to pay two cents per ounce instead of five cents. And it is a consideration for offices of the Government, not to be underbid or outdone by private establishments.

3. The state of affairs at San Francisco Branch Mint, presents a third feature, unlike the other two. Here there is already an offer, under a recent law, to pass the whole of the bullion over to a private refinery, and leave the Mint nothing to do, in that line. Now we have no advice to offer, to a Company which will take care of its own interests. We have only to show, that in the fiscal year under consideration, the Branch Mint had about 360,000 ounces of gold containing silver, against only 90,000 ounces silver, some of it containing gold; omitting foreign coin, of course. We will suppose 60,000 of the ^{silver} ~~latter~~, fit for parting; to be met by 30,000 of gold. This leaves 330,000 ounces of gold, without original silver to mix with it. Miller's process might cost twice as much there, as here; that would be twice $1\frac{1}{3}$ cents, & $\frac{2}{3}$ cent for lost silver, say $3\frac{2}{3}$ cents. But there is something to pay for using the patent; and there may be other things in the margin, to bring it up to 4 cents. This would be only half of what the depositor is to pay, under the offer of the Refining Company.

At the outset, one of the greatest objections raised by our Melter & Refiner, & by ourselves, was, the distressing and deadly effects of the chlorine fumes. On this point it is but fair to copy what is briefly said in the account of the process, as given by Messrs Hunt and Leibius:

"Only a very slight smell of chlorine was observed during the operation of refining; the only time when the chlorine was distinctly perceptible, though without marked inconvenience to those engaged, was during the pouring of the argentio chloride as already described."

This however is a point, as much as any other, on which we ought to be satisfied by experiment in our own house. Chlorine in its full developement, acts horribly upon the respiratory organs - even a single whiff of it; and we are not to poison men for the sake of getting a cheap process.

Again, it does not appear what price the inventor asks, for using his process. If it is a large sum, it could not be paid without a special appropriation from Congress, which it would not be worth while to ask for. A better arrangement would be to render an account of its use, and pay so much per ounce of gold refined.

We agree with Mr Booth, that if this process is to be tried here, it should be with the presence and direction of an expert from Sydney; for there is a great deal in being well acquainted with details, and in avoiding errors.

Mr Booth agrees with us as to the intrinsic value of this invention, so highly scientific, well arranged, and successfully carried out. He only does not concur in the opinion that it will work well in removing the refractory metals or metalloids, especially arsenic; or rather, thinks it will be a wasteful mode of performing that sort of refining. This also is a matter we want to see tested, although there is not so much gold presented of that mixture, as silver, in original bullion.

Lastly we must notice an objection taken by the Melt & Refiner, that the loss of silver in chloride is much greater than the law allows for his wastage account; being one and a half to two per cent. - The statement from Sydney puts this in as a part of the expense. But this does not relieve the M & R's account, if the Assayer's report puts down all the silver contained.

This difficulty could be obviated by a change of expression in the report. Suppose a deposit contains 850 parts gold, and 140 silver; of which silver, only 115 parts can be recovered. The Assayer could report "Silver Partible, 115." The depositor would get back his lost silver, and a good deal more, by the lower rate of charge. - If this is not admissible, an act of Congress would be necessary.

We append a statement showing how the actual expense is arrived at, based upon the papers sent by Mr. Miller.

Very respectfully,

J. R. Eckfeldt
Wm E. DuBois

The Director of the Mint.

A Statement of Operations and Expenses,
under the direction of the Inventor, at Sydney,
during the whole year 1869.

With a comparison, in our terms, of what the
expenses would be at Philadelphia or New York.

1. Wages there, 50 s. a week, say \$2.22 gold per day.
Wages here for work of equal grade, say \$3.50 curr.
from which take 12 per cent., say \$3.08 gold.
2. Their principal fuel is coke, for which they
pay \$12.15 gold per ton. We pay 6 cts. a bushel,
curr. 70 bush. to the ton, \$4.20; in gold say \$3.70.
3. Charcoal - they pay sixpence a bushel, we pay
20 cents curr. say 17½ cts.
4. Black lead pots, cost the same in both places;
French white pots, assumed the same; also the
binoxide of manganese; rubber tubes, &c.
5. Hydrochloric acid - they pay fourpence a pound,
we pay three cents, say 2.64.
6. Coal gas, 10 s. a thousand; we pay 2.30; say \$2.00 gold.
Their operations were on 202,663 ozs. gold.

This required -

Wages of one man, fifty two weeks.

Coke, 13 tons; Charcoal 105 bus.; Gas 36½ thousands;

Acids, 3¼ tons; Chemicals, pots, tubing &c. (which we
par with them) gross amt. £ 140.12.

They add in, waste of gold £ 82.3; waste of silver £ 67.12;
wear & tear of Plant, £ 20.

From all these data, we find it costs them nearly
1½ cents per ounce, and would cost us 1⅓ cents, as
near as may be; including wastage, & wear of apparatus.

J. R. Eckfeldt
J. E. Dubois, Esq.
Assays &c

Opinion on Dr.
Miller's process
of refining Gold
& Silver. —

Recd Aug 3/70



United States Assay Office
New York Aug. 5, 1870.

Sir:

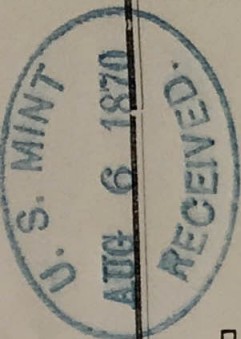
I send herewith Receipt
No 16 for \$5582.¹⁰/₁₀₀ "available profits"
from April 1st to June 30th, 1870, trans-
ferred to the U. S. Treasury, pursuant to
Act of July 20th, 1868.

Would it not be sufficient, hereafter,
to notify you of such transfer, so that
the 2nd receipt could be forwarded with
the bullion accounts to the accounting
officer at Washington, in accordance
with instructions in your letter of Nov.
7th, 1868?

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedt. Servant,

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia,
Penn.^a

Thos. C. Acton
Superintendent.



SECOND.

No. 16 United States Treasury.

New-York, Aug 4, 1870

I Certify, That Thomas Hillhouse, Treasurer
U.S. Assay office, New York,
this day deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States
Fifty five hundred & eighty two, $\frac{10}{100}$
Dollars, on account of available profits, from April 1st.
to June 30, 1870, pursuant to act of July 20, 1868,
for which I have signed triplicate receipts.

\$5,582 $\frac{10}{100}$ }
G.C. 3,154.-
S.C. 2,428.10

W. G. Miller
Actg Assistant Treasurer, U. S.

U. S. Assay Office
Wt.

Enclosing dup. rec't.
No 16 for \$5582.¹⁰

Transfer of available
profits.





Office of U. S. Assistant Treasurer,

Boston, Mass., Aug 8, 1870.

Sir,

Your favor of 6th inst containing
result of examination of the half eagle is
duly received. Please send me its value
\$4.60.

Thanking you for the information contained
in your letter, I am

Yours Respy

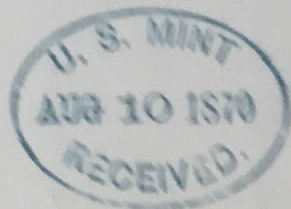
F. Haven

Asst's Treas U.S.

Wm Jas Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

Asst Treas U. S.
Boston, Mass.

Requests, remittances
of the Value of $\frac{1}{2}$ Eagle
Sent for Examination.



W.A.H.

Treasury of the United States,



CASH DIVISION,

Washington August 8th 1870

Sir:

I have you herewith Transfer
check on Assistant Treasurer U.S.
Philadelphia for \$600. Will you please
send me same amount in three cent
nickel coin?

Ry 8/9/70
H

Respectfully yours

L. G. Little
Asst. Treasurer U.S.

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia,
Pa.

J. P. Tuttle
Asst Sec. U. S.
Washington D.C.

Wants \$600. worth
of 3 & 4 copper medals



N: 4100

Office of the Assistant Treasurer of the U. S.

Philadelphia, August 10 1870

I Certify, That Geo. Cyster, Treasurer U. S. Mint
at Phil.

has this day deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the U. S.
Seven Thousand ————— \$ Dollars,
in gold coin
on account of Porting 100

Charged.
for which I have signed triplicate receipts.

\$ 7000.

Charles S. Smith
Assistant Treasurer U. S.

N^o 4101

Office of the Assistant Treasurer of the U. S.

J. H.
Philadelphia, August 10 1870
I Certify, That *Geo. Cyster*, Treasurer U. S. Mint at
Phil.

has this day deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the U. S.
Three thousand, nine hundred and sixty three ⁶¹/₁₀₀ Dollars,
in silver coin
on account of Coinage

Charged to June 30, 1870
for which I have signed triplicate receipts.

\$ 3,963 ⁶¹/₁₀₀

George J. ...
Assistant Treasurer U. S.

No 4102

Office of the Assistant Treasurer of the U. S.

J. H. Philadelphia, Aug. 10 1870

I Certify, That Geo. Cyster, Treasurer U. S. Mint at Phil.

has this day deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the U. S.
 Seven thousand and eighty eight 77 Dollars,
 in ~~Seven~~ ¹⁰⁰ ~~in~~ ¹⁰⁰ ~~on~~ ¹⁰⁰ account of Silver

TRIPPLICATE.

TRIPPLICATE.

Profits As found 30, 1870


for which I have signed triplicate receipts.

\$ 7088.77 ¹⁰⁰

Geo. Cyster
 Assistant Treasurer U. S.

N^o 4099

Office of the Assistant Treasurer of the U. S.



 J. H.
 I Certify, That Geo. Eyster, Treasurer U. S. Mint
 at Phil.

ha this day deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the U. S.
 Twenty eight thousand four hundred and forty four ⁴⁸ Dollars,
 in gold coin ₁₀₀
 on account of $\frac{1}{2}\%$ charges on coinage

to fund 30, 1870

for which I have signed triplicate receipts.

$$\$ 28,444. \frac{48}{100}$$


 Assistant Treasurer U. S.

the Engraver of the Mint. is provided
with all the necessary information
copies data &c. if he is not I shall
be glad, to supply, and, upon authorization
from the Director, will put myself in
communication with him. I provided
Dr. Linderman with ample data from which
to select a motto for the medal, and presume it
is with W. Barber

With thanks to yourself and Mr.
McKean I remain very truly
Yrs obt. Servt
Robt J. Stevens

Office of the Public Ledger,

S. W. COR. SIXTH AND CHESTNUT STS.

GEORGE W. CHILDS, Proprietor.

Philadelphia, Aug 13 1870

Dear Sir

In looking over some papers that I have accumulated in my absence, I find the enclosed from W. Stevens on the subject - The Baker Medal - concerning which I wrote you briefly some weeks ago -

I regret that I am unable to give you W. Stevens address - but can procure it if desired. Very truly

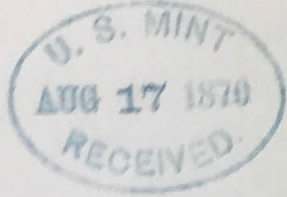
Wm. W. Keane

Thomas Pollard.

Com. V. McKean
enclosing letter
of Robt. J. Stevens
in relation to the
Baker medal

Aug. 13th 1870.

Rec^d Aug 13/70



Office of U. S. Assistant Treasurer,

Boston, Mass., August 15, 1870.

Sir;

I have the honor to acknowledge
receipt to-day of your letter of 12th inst
enclosing \$4.00 in coin.

Respectfully Yours
T. Haven
Asst Treas U.S.

Hon Jas. Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

Asst Treas US
Boston Mass

Act'g rec'd of \$4⁶⁰
Value of 1/2 Eagle sent
for Examination.



2.

Treasury of the United States,

CASH DIVISION,

Washington Aug. 15th 1870.

Sir:

Please send me, at your earliest convenience, a few copies of any circulars from your office, which are now in force, relating to the purchase or redemption by you of nickel-copper coins of the various denominations.

Yours respectfully,

E. S. Ginn

Treas. U.S.

Hon. Jas. Pollock,

Director of the Mint,

Philadelphia

Pa.

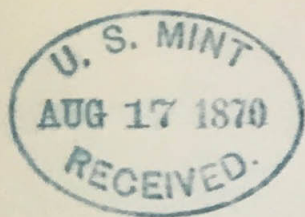
Treas. U. S.
Washington D.C.

Wants copies of
Circular repub-
-lican description
of nickel copper
cents. —

Correspondence

U. S. Mint.
Also of
Branch Mints,
August 1870.





United States Assay Office
New York Aug. 15 1870.

Sir:

I transmit herewith a
statement of the business of the Assay
Office for the fiscal year ending June
30, 1870, showing \$8,271,256.40 as the
amount deposited during that time.

Very Respectfully,

Your Obedt. Servant,

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia,
Penn.

J. S. G. Acton
Superintendent.

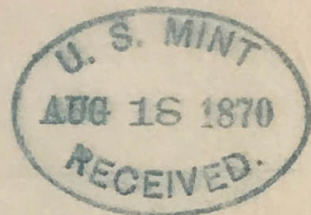
N. Y. Assay Office

Envolving Annual
Statement
of operations &



**BONDS, SECURITIES, ETC., UNLAWFULLY ACQUIRED AND INVESTMENTS EXCEEDING THE LIMITS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 5:
AS AMENDED**

Description	Par value	Book value	Name directors who, as shown by the ba approved the purchase of these bonds, a quired.



N.Y. 17 Aug. 1870

J. A. Pollock Esq.
Director U. S. Mint
Phil^a.

Dear Sir:

I am in due receipt of your esteemed favor 15th inst. with order for sundries enclosed, which have had my attention.

The goods are nearly all laid out ready for packing, but before sending them, I beg to make the following remarks, for your consideration:

Chloride of Calcium jars - I have none less price than \$1.⁰⁰ ea. - so I sent out & purchased some, & propose to put them to you at 70^{cts} ea.

Casseroles #2 - I have none but French, & they are worth \$2.²⁵ each -

Set Porⁿ Evap. Dishes glazed above & below - price not put down by you - They sell for \$2.⁵⁰

Plat^m Wire - large & small - size not indicated. - price is .03 p grain according to size & weight -

Wash Bottles - do you want them fitted or not?

Test Tubes & Rack - my price usually \$1.²⁵ p doz - you order 4 doz - with rack - for \$1.²⁵ - is there not some mistake - I can give you 6 in. Test Tubes for 60^{cts} p doz - without rack.

Wooden Filter-stands - usual price is \$1.⁵⁰ each.

Iron ring-stands - 3 rings - price is \$1.²⁵ ea & I have sold at \$15. p doz.

Porⁿ crucibles - none ever imported so small as 3/4 in diam - smallest is 1 in. - can make up the

lot of seven - for \$1. ³⁸

Poreⁿ filtering rings - I have some in Custom House, to
be out in a few days - Can you wait?

Graduated Cylinders - ~~1000~~ 1000 c.c. - I will put in
the 1000 c.c. at same price -

Centigrade Thermometers - I have both paper & glass
scale - the former @ \$1. ⁵⁰ less price
than that named -

In addition to above remarks, I would say
that "De lauil's silver faucet" - with stopcock, com-
plete, for wet assay, is also among my list of
goods, & I thought you might want something of
this kind - if you should, my price would be \$2. ⁵⁰

The schedule, I return to you, as requested,
& upon receipt of your reply, I will immediately
ship what goods I have ready, & any others you may
name to in addition, among the above -

I remain Very truly Yours
E. B. Benjamin
p. G. W. M.

E. B. Brainerd
New York

A reference to
Apparatus for the
Charlotte B. Mott

Aug. 1870

Wm. B. Brainerd
New York

**BONDS, SECURITIES, ETC., UNLAWFULLY ACQUIRED AND INVESTMENTS EXCEEDING THE LIMITS PRESCRIBED BY SECTION 5:
AS AMENDED**

Description	Par value	Book value	Name directors who, as shown by the books, approved the purchase of these bonds, securities, etc., required.

AUGUST 17TH 1870

Description	Per value	Book value	dated showing the purchase of these per these questions are as shown by
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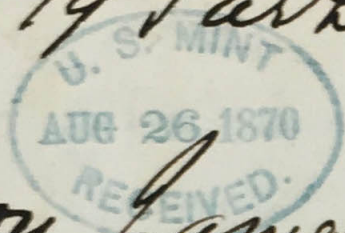
VS VENDED

SECURITIES' ETC. ORIGINALS VENDED AND INVESTMENTS EXCEEDING THE LIMITS PRESCRIBED BY SEC. 11

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19 Park Place New York

Aug 24th 1870



Hon James Pollock
Director U. S. Mint

Dear Sir

Your favor of 23rd inst
in reference to Dr Miller's
Process was duly received,
and I beg leave to tender
my thanks for the kind
offer contained in it.

I will communicate its
contents to Dr Miller, but,
as he is at a great distance,
it may be some time before
his reply is received.

Yours respectfully
C. L. Penwick

E. S. Rumwick
New York

Accepts Director
offer to make trial
of Mr. Miller's refining
process, & will
inform Mr. Miller





19 Park Place, New York

Aug 16th 1870

Hon Jas. Pollock

Director of U. S. Mint

Dear Sir

Since I last had the honor of
addressing you, Mr. Garbett has left with
you a statement of the operations with the
Miller process at the Sidney Mint for the
space of one year.

This statement, as you have probably
noticed, shows a smaller percentage of
loss in Silver than the statement for the
first Quarter Year previously sent to you
by me; while ^{the loss} in gold is but 22.341⁰³
out of 181,294 ⁷/₁₀₀, being only 1¹/₄
ten thousandths of the quantity of pure
gold operated upon.

As I have no statement of the cost of refi-
ning in the U. S. Mint for the same period,
it is not possible for me to make a comparison

(as you can) of the actual cost of refining by the different processes, but, assuming that the loss permitted by our law is a fair average of the loss actually incurred by the Mint system of refining, it is clear that the aggregate loss by the Miller Process in monetary value of Gold and Silver combined (as shown by the annual statement of the Sidney mint) is greatly less than the monetary value of ~~Gold~~ the loss of Gold and Silver combined by the process in use at the Mint of the United States.

Under such a state of facts permit me to ask whether a sufficient amount of evidence has not been adduced to warrant the Government in expending the sum of money requisite to test the operation of the Miller

process in the Mint with a view to its adoption in case the experiments prove satisfactory.

If upon a full consideration of the matter you and ~~Dr~~ ^{Dr} Booth should come to the conclusion that it would be expedient to test the Miller Process in the Mint, would there be any impropriety in writing me a letter to that effect to be used when making application to the Secretary of the Treasury to authorize the requisite expenditure.

If the above suggested course should not meet your approbation, will you oblige me by suggesting in what manner the matter can be forwarded in case you should deem it expedient to have the process tested.

Yours respectfully
C. S. Penwick

E. S. Renwick
New York

Miller, process
of refining gold
and silver.



Mint of the United States,

CHIEF COINER'S DEPARTMENT,

Philadelphia, July 1st 1870

Hon. James Pollock

Director U. S. Mint

Sir

In conformity with your request I herewith enclose Statement marked "A" exhibiting the amount of Gold and Silver Deposits, and the amount of Gold, Silver and Base metal coinage for the six months ending June 30. 1870.

As you will observe the coinage has materially fallen off from the previous six (6) months. There are various causes that have united to produce this result. The demand for Nickel Copper and Bronze has been checked by the general depression of business throughout the country, and also by the issue of the 15cent Note.

The diminished coinage of gold may I think be attributed principally to two causes. First - the large shipment of Bars instead of Coin, occasioned by the Coinage charge, which is a discrimination of $\frac{1}{2}$ of one per cent in favor of the former, and

Secondly - by the unauthorized and unlawful system practiced at the New York Assay Office by which several millions of dollars in gold Bars that should have been forwarded to the Mint for coinage were held as collateral

upon which coin was advanced to the owners thereof. - See
Report of Messrs Knox and Linderman.

I need hardly say that this proceeding can find no
warrant in the instructions furnished from the Mint.

The next six months will I confidently expect
exhibit an improvement upon the last.

I am Very respectfully

Your obedt Servt.

London Snowden
Chief Clerk

A. London Snowden, &
Chief Coiner U.S. Mint

Report, amt of Gold
and Silver deposits,
and Gold, Silver and
base metal Coinage
for six months ending
June 30. 1870.

Rec^d
July 1/70

Palmer Ben July 1st 1870 was
\$ 147.056.49 —

\$ 127.898.02
19.158.42
\$ 147.056.44

Noted
H. C. O'Neil

United States Treasury.

Boston July 5 1870

Sir:

I have the pleasure of acknowledging receipt from you of one pair of scales for weighing Gold Coin — and accompanying weights.

Very Respy

Yours vob Servt

F. Haven

Unit Treasr,

Hon Jas Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

J. Hoare
Asst Treasr
Boston
Mass

Has received
Scale & weights
for Gold coin

Recd
July 6/70

Invoice No. 20.

Statement of *Gold* Bullion transmitted to the UNITED STATES MINT,
for Coinage, pursuant to Act of March, 1855, by *W. G. White ad-interim*
Treasurer of the UNITED STATES ASSAY OFFICE.

New York, July 8th 1870

One

BOXES No. *1*

@

CONTAINING

27

BARS.

Description.	Numbers.	Pieces.	Ounces.	dec.	Fineness.	Description.	Numbers.	Pieces.	Ounces.	dec.	Fineness.
<i>Mixed Coins</i>	<i>938</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>899</i>	<i>x</i>					
<i>Halifax Bar</i>	<i>940</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>956</i>	<i>2</i>					
<i>Mixed Coins</i>	<i>987</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>68</i>	<i>891</i>	<i>x</i>					
<i>"</i>	<i>988</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>895½</i>	<i>x</i>					
<i>Nevada Bar</i>	<i>993</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>205</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>992</i>	<i>2</i>					
<i>Jewel's Rings</i>	<i>1044</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>114</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>675</i>	<i>2</i>					
<i>Miss. P. Coins</i>	<i>1082</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>896½</i>	<i>x</i>					
<i>"</i>	<i>1093</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>64</i>	<i>899</i>	<i>x</i>					
<i>Span. Reals</i>	<i>1103</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>65</i>	<i>896½</i>	<i>1</i>					
<i>Mix. P. Coins</i>	<i>1105</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>93</i>	<i>59</i>	<i>889½</i>	<i>x</i>					
<i>Geo. Ring</i>	<i>1124</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>03</i>	<i>963½</i>	<i>1</i>					
<i>Mix. P. Coin</i>	<i>1167</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>897</i>	<i>x</i>					
<i>"</i>	<i>1168</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>33</i>	<i>49</i>	<i>896½</i>	<i>x</i>					
<i>Geo. Amal.</i>	<i>1179</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>968</i>	<i>2</i>					
<i>Mix. P. Coins</i>	<i>1200</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>41</i>	<i>93</i>	<i>889</i>	<i>1</i>					
<i>Geo. Ring</i>	<i>1238</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>143</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>664</i>	<i>1</i>					
<i>Defaced U.S.C.</i>	<i>1243</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>901</i>	<i>1</i>					
<i>Mix. P. Coins</i>	<i>1261</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>43</i>	<i>897½</i>	<i>1</i>					
<i>Defaced U.S.C.</i>	<i>1271</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>89</i>	<i>899</i>	<i>1</i>					
<i>Mix. P. Coins</i>	<i>1276</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>93</i>	<i>881</i>	<i>1</i>					
<i>Geo. Bar Copper</i>	<i>1347</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>469</i>	<i>1</i>					
<i>Mix. P. Coin</i>	<i>1361</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>892½</i>	<i>1</i>					
<i>Geo. Ring</i>	<i>1369</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>70</i>	<i>56</i>	<i>676</i>	<i>1</i>					
<i>Mix. P. Coin</i>	<i>1376</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>899</i>	<i>1</i>					
<i>"</i>	<i>1437</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>45</i>	<i>886½</i>	<i>1</i>					
<i>Geo. Amal.</i>	<i>1453</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>86</i>	<i>974½</i>	<i>2</i>					
<i>Montana Bar</i>	<i>1457</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>83</i>	<i>971</i>	<i>2</i>					
	<i>27</i>		<i>1291</i>	<i>99</i>	<i>=</i>						

Stand. Mt. 1243014 = \$ 2312584

Less Coinage 115.63

Net Value \$ 23,010.21

July 8th 1870
Invoice #20

1870
W. S. A. O. N. (S)

File
Treasury Department.

July 9th.

1870

Sir

I am requested by the Department of State to procure for Hon. E. D. Washburn Minister of the United States at Paris one of the Medals struck in bronze commemorative of President Grant.

I will thank you to comply with the request and transmit to this Department the Medal asked for with the bill of expenses if any are incurred.

Very Respectfully
Geo. S. Postwell,

Secretary of the Treasury

Hon James Pollock
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia Pa.

Secy Treasury

Want a bronze
Medal of President
Grant for the
American Min-
-ista (Mr. Washburne)
at Paris.

Recd July 10th 1870

Mr. H. S. Pollock

Dear Sir,

In replying to the application from the Treasury, for "a Medal struck in Bronze commemorative of President Grant". I would like the Department to be informed of the fact that properly speaking we have no Congressional Medal of President Grant which is an exception to a general rule.

The Medal we have is one struck some years before the Presidency, and voted to Major Genl Grant.

In such case will you do me the favor to lay this distinction before the Hon^{ble} Director, and obtain if possible his influence to get an order for a Congressional Medal for President Grant, and I will promise you the utmost exertion of my poor abilities to procure a Medal that shall reflect credit on our institution all round.

Yours Truly
H. Barber

Wm Barber,
Engraver - Millint

Repairs a medal
of Gen. Grant, but
now of President
Grant - which
letter he desires to
prepare.

Rec^d July 11 - 1870

Official Letter

From Sec. of Treasury

9TH

July 1870

J.J.K.



Treasury Department.

July 28th 1870

Sir:

Your letter of the 11th instant transmitting a medal struck in bronze commemorative of the services of General Grant, was duly received, and a copy of the letter transmitted to Hon E. B. Washburne Minister of the United States at Paris, through the State Department. As soon as a reply is received you will be advised with reference to the disposition of the medal.

Very Respectfully

Geo. S. Boutwell,
Secretary of the Treasury

Hon James Pollock
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia Pa

Secy Treasury

Acknowledgs receipt of
Bronze medal of Gold
Grant, and a copy of
Director's letter sent
to Minister Washburn
at Paris.

Correspondence
U. S. Mint,
also of
Branch Mints

July 1870.



Russellville Pope County Ark

July 9th 1870

Mr. James Pollock
Director of U. S. Mint
Philadelphia Pa

Sir. I was
wanting some small change. I got 10.15 & 35^{cts}
from A. E. Spence's Treasure of W. S. and he
directed me to you for the Bronze one (1) & two-
(2) cts & the Nickel 3 & 5 cts pieces which I wish to
know of you if I can get as little as
75^{cts} or 20 worth or in Nickel & Bronze & if I would
send you the U. S. Note for that & how you
will send them to me
hoping to hear from you soon

I am Sir

Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt

J. H. Battifield
P. M.

William Butterfield
July, 1870.

James Pollock Esq

Washington July 15/70



Director of the Mint
Phila

Sir

I have supposed the large amount of Coinage under Napoleon III to have been recoinage mainly. It appears that a Mr Fisher of Phila in 1853 through the State Dept, was trying to collect a claim on France for having pointed out geologically the existence of gold in Senegal in Africa - that the Emperor sent out a large working force and obtained a large amt in gold. Fisher's Claim was \$3,000,000 on France

Are you able to inform me what amt for what years gold has been coined in France &c. from Senegal -

Have you any tables showing what the coinage in France has been from ores and also of recoinage. I should like to get at this facts

I am Very Respectfully
Yours

A. Penfield

A. Penfield
Washington D.C.

Wants to know amt of
French coinage &
amt of gold from
Senegal, Africa.



MINT OF THE UNITED STATES,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT,

Philadelphia, 22 July. 1870

Hon. James Pollock,

Director of the U. S. Mint.

Dear Sir,

I have carefully examined the continuation of the Experiments in relation to Miller's chlorine process for separating gold & silver, & while it seems likely that a valuable process is being developed, yet it does not appear to be sufficiently perfected, for our adoption, or even for trial, because:

1. We are obliged to use a considerable amount of silver from the new States & Territories for refining gold, because such silver contains small quantities of gold. But such silver also contains variable, & often considerable, quantities of Arsenic, Antimony, &c. the effect of whose presence in Miller's process is unknown from trial, but we can readily infer that the volatile chlorides of these metals, would induce the loss of both silver

Mint of the United States.

Philadelphia, July 22 1870

Hon. James Pollock

Director &c. &c.

Dear Sir

The Meltter & Refiner has just shown us his reply, of this date, to the inquiries respecting Mr. Miller's Chlorine Process, as represented by Mr. Garbett, lately here.

The grounds taken by Mr. Booth are forcible, and yet it seems to us not in keeping with the uniform policy of this Mint, to turn away a supposed improved process, of great importance, without even a trial. We have always been ready and eager to try any and every thing holding any promise of advantage. By doing so, all our processes, in assaying, melting, refining, coining, and die-engraving, have been kept up to the front line, as is acknowledged by competent foreign judges.

at the first blush, this Chlorine Process is a highly scientific, beautiful scheme; and its gradual perfection entitles it still farther to our attention and generous examination.

It must be noted, that while we are charging five cents an ounce for refining or parting most of the gold we get, this process professes to do the same duty for less than one cent and a half.

And this includes all wastage of precious metals. It seems to us that Mr Booth's most important objection, the loss that would be visited upon him in wastage, could be easily managed by a suitable deduction of weight charged, so as to protect him entirely.

It would not do to set aside our present process, for it answers some cases where Miller's would not, so well. But it would be a very neat arrangement for operating simply on gold without the bulky addition of silver; and might be used upon occasion, in concurrence with the usual methods.

They seem to make no account of the bad fumes, or rather to have a way of avoiding them.

But the object of this hasty note is to ask an opportunity to examine these papers more deliberately before sending them back, so that we may offer a deliberate opinion.

In the meantime it might be well to inquire what bonus the inventor expects, for if it is high, that alone should stop any further inquiry.

Respectfully,

J. R. Eckfeldt.
Wm E DuBois

Another reason for not rejecting this new process too hastily, is the effect it will have if introduced into the S. F. Branch Mint. It would apparently neutralize the legislation lately obtained for the Refining Company, by destroying all competition.

We find that the cost of refining is set down at about $1\frac{1}{2}$ cents per ounce of gold, even while they have to pay 8 cents a pound for muriatic acid, whereas we can get it for 3 cents.

& Gold in Miller's process, beyond what has been yet observed.

2. The loss of Silver reported in the last experiments with Miller's process, ~~altho'~~ not much over half of the loss reported in the first, is still too great to warrant our adopting the process, because it exceeds the allowance of wastage allowed by law. As stated in my former communication, in working Gold the results are most satisfactory with the Australian Metal, and might perhaps be so with our own, except in the case just referred to (No. 1.), but under the U. S. Mint law, the M. & Refiner is charged with nearly all the silver contained in the Gold, & the proportionate loss of silver, to this amount charged, is estimated as loss, and not to the amount of mixed metal (gold & silver). The M. & R. would therefore be obliged to make up the deficiency from his private funds, in working Miller's process.

Respectfully yours

J. C. Booth

J. C. Booth, M. & R
J. R. Eckfeldt, Assayer
Wm. E. Dubois Asst Assayer

Further report upon
Miller's Refining process.

(Rec^d at Chief Clerk B's
desk Sept 1/70)

Rec^d July 22/70

U.S. MINT GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE 1870/JULY - AUGUST

U.S. MINT GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE 1870/SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER



United States Assay Office
New York Sept. 20 1870.

Sir:

I transmit herewith a "Statement of Deposits" at this Office for the last Fiscal Year, corrected in accordance with your request, which I trust will prove satisfactory.

I should be glad to be informed what is the latest date to which the estimates for the Assay Office for the next Fiscal Year can be deferred, without putting you to inconvenience.

Very Respectfully,

Your Obedt. Servant,

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia,
Pa.

W. C. Acton
Superintendent.

*Assay Office
New York*

*Return amended
"annual statement of
deposits."*

*asks latest time
to send in estimator for
1872.*



1870
Harmington Iowa Sept 24

Director U. S. mint Phila

Sir Enclosed find P. O. money
order for five dollars to pay for exami-
nation & report on Speciman platinum
um I sent you the 3 Sept. I received
a letter from you dated the 12th Sept in
which you stated it proved to be platinum
also when refined was ^{Worth} 5 or 6 dollars per oz
please acknowledge the receipt of this
order & be so kind as to tell me
if platinum is of any practical use
could a person find sale for it readily
how much refined will it yeald per oz
as such I sent you for examination
& what will be the cost of refining
please tell me this much and I
will be much obliged

Respectfully yours

Wm Armstrong
Harmington
Iowa

P.O order issued
by Daniel Merritt P.M
at Farmington
Iowa

P.S

there is no doubt about
the yield^{of} this mine as I know
I can obtain large quantities of it
if it will ~~pay~~ not cost too much
to get it refined & can find
sale for it

Respectfully
Wm Armstrong
Farmington
Iowa

Wm Armstrong
Farmington Iowa

Enclosing \$5. for report
on specimen of platinum
ore. &c

Recd Sept 29/70

19 Park Place, New York

Sept 19th 1870

Hon. Jas. Pollock
Director U. S. Mint

Dear Sir

Your acceptable letter
of 15th inst. ~~was~~ duly
received and has been
forwarded to Prof. Muller.
Unfortunately, Mr. Garbet
has gone to England and
Prof. Muller has no one
in this country who is
skilled in the process.
I hope to hear from him on
the subject speedily, as
your previous letter was
duly forwarded to him

immediately after its
receipt.

Respectfully Vlt. Servt.

C. L. Henricks

E. S. Rensselaer
New York

Has forwarded the
Clinton letter of the
13th inst about
Miller's Chlorine
process, to Dr. Miller
at the Sydney Australia



U. S. Assay Office



New York Sept-14 1870

Mr James Fallock

Dear Sir

Enquiries have been made of me as to whether there are responsible parties in this country, who manufacture coin for the small foreign governments.

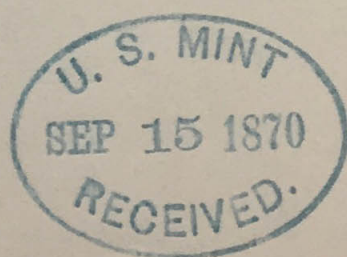
I am unable to answer them, and Dr Torrey thinks that there have been such parties, but he thinks they no longer exist.

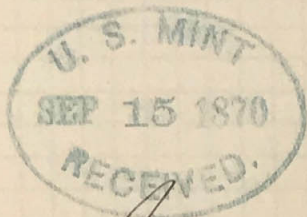
Can you give me any information on this point? If so it will be gratefully appreciated.

Very Truly Yours
Watson Sykes

J Water, Sylvester
U. S. assay office
New York

Inquiry for man-
-ufacturer, of
fine coin.





New York Sept 14th 1870

James Pollock Esq

Sir,

Your favor of the 12th inst
with warrant has been received. Enclosed
you will find warrant receipted.

The medal and balance of our bill
you will please send by mail and oblige.

Yours Very Respectfully

Becker &

Beck & Sons
New York

Return warrant for
\$11.00 of Henry B
received.



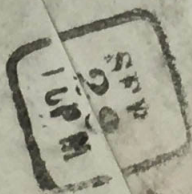
United States Assay Office,
New York

Estimates
for
1871-72
5

NEW YORK
SEP 29
4:30 PM



Mr. James Pollock
Director of the Assay
Office of the
Treasury
Department



ESTIMATES OF APPROPRIATIONS required for the service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1872, by the

United States Assay Office at New York.

GENERAL OBJECT.
(Title of Appropriation.)

DETAILED OBJECTS OF EXPENDITURE AND EXPLANATIONS.

Date of acts, resolutions, or
treaties authorizing or pro-
viding for the expenditures.References to Statutes
at Large, (Little, Brown
& Co's. edition)

Vol. Page Sec.

Estimated amount which will be
required for each detailed object
of expenditure.Total amount to be appropriated
under each head of appropriation.Amount appropriated for the cur-
rent fiscal year ending June 30,
1871.

Salaries

Superintendent
Assayer & Meltor & Refiner @ \$3000 each
Assistant Assayer
Deputy Treasurer
Two Clerks @ \$2,500 each
One Clerk
One Clerk
One Clerk

Mch. 3/1853 10 212 10

\$4500 00

do.

6000 00

do.

2000 00

do.

4500 00

do.

5000 00

do.

2000 00

do.

1900 00

do.

1800 00

\$27700 00

27700 00

Wages of Workmen

Wages of Workmen

do.

68000 00

68000 00

Contingent Expenses

Miscellaneous items, incidentals, & repairs

50000 00

50000 00

U. S. Army Office.

New York.

Sept. 29th, 1870.

Thos. C. Acton,

Superintendent.

Estimates of Appropriations required
for the support of the Office, for the
fiscal year ending June 30th, 1872



United States Assay Office
New York Sept. 29 1870.

Sir:

I respectfully submit the enclosed Schedule of Appropriations required for the support of this Office, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1872.

The amounts asked for, as you will observe, are the same as those finally appropriated for the current year, viz:

For Salaries of Officers & Clerks, \$27,700

" Wages of Workmen, 68,000

" Incidental & Contingent Expenses, 50,000

\$145,700

In preparing these estimates, I have endeavored to conform, as strictly as possible, to the instructions of the Department, not to exceed the amounts actually required. The sums asked for are, in my judgment, no more than sufficient to meet the expenses of the Office for

the coming fiscal year.

In explanation of the figures in the last column of the Schedule - "Amount appropriated for the current fiscal year ending June 30, 1871" - I would state that the original appropriation, made July 12th, 1870, stood as follows:

Salaries of Officers & Clerks	\$ 25,700
Wages of Workmen	40,000
Incidental & Contingent Expenses	<u>50,000</u>
Total	\$ 115,700

On my earnest representation of its utter inadequacy, this amt. was increased, July 15th, 1870, by \$30,000, apportioned as follows:

Salaries of Officers & Clerks, \$2,000	
Wages of Workmen,	<u>28,000 \$30,000</u>
	<u>\$145,700</u>

Making the total appropriations stand as in the table first given.

Very Respectfully,

Yours Obedt. Servant,

Thos. C. Nelson
Superintendent.

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia.

N. Y. Assay Office

Transmitting &
Explaining Annual
Estimates for 1871-72



EW



Treasury of the United States,

Washington, September 12, 1870.

Sir:

I have referred your letter of the 10th instant, inclosing copies of correspondence between yourself and the Assistant Treasurer U.S. at Boston, Mass., concerning a spurious five dollar gold piece, and "suggesting that it might be well for the Treasury Department to take some steps to find out where these dangerous imitations are from," to the Hon. the Solicitor of the Treasury, who has charge of all matters pertaining to the detection and arrest of counterfeiters of United States coin and currency.

Very respectfully,

Hon. Jas. Pollock,

Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia,

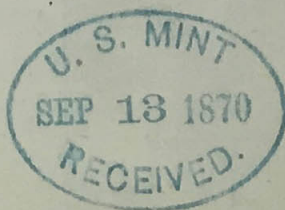
Pa.

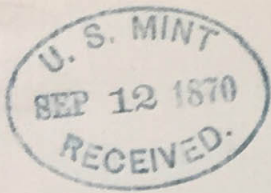
L. S. G. Little
Asst. Treasurer U.S.

Asst Treas. U. S.
Washington D.C.

Has refused the
Boston Spurious
gold coin to the
Solicitor of the
Treasury. —

Correspondence
U. S. Mint
also of
Branch Mints
September 1870.





Treasury Department,
Comptroller's Office.
Sep: 10th 1870

Hon: James Pollock,
Director U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia.

Sir: You are requested to furnish this
office with two copies of the Pamphlet, con-
-taining the Mint Laws and Regulations.

Very respectfully,
R. M. Bayle
Comptroller.

R. W. Taylor
1st Comptroller of the
Treasury
Washington D.C.

Wants copies of
Mint Laws &
Regulations.



Office of U. S. Assistant Treasurer,

Boston, Mass., Sept 7, 1870.



Sir,

I enclose herewith a half eagle purporting to be of the issue of 1858 and request that you will allow it to be examined by your assayer, and that its value (whatever that may be) be returned in good coin. It is not similar to the coin described in your letter of April 14, 1870 with the exception that the weight of this piece is nearly perfect?

I am Respectfully
Yours obt Servt

F. T. Hawes

Asst. Treas. U.S.

Hon James Pollock
Director of the U.S. Mint
Philadelphia
Penn.

Asst Treas. U. S.
Boston, Mass.

Encloses $\frac{1}{2}$ Eagle
for Examination.



Note to the Director -

I would suggest the propriety of sending to the Treas^r Dept^t a copy of this letter to Treas^r Haven of Boston. - If the Dept^t has special agents, they ~~cannot be better employed~~ might well be at work to find out where these dangerous imitations come from; whether made abroad, or in some of our button-factories, or ^{by} petty medal-makers. The dies are well cut, tho' not fac-similes.

D

1870

Harrington Iowa Sept 3d

Superintendent U. S. Mint
Philadelphia Pa.

Dear Sir

Inclosed

find a small package of mineral
which I think from the best information
I can get is Platinum as there is no one
in this part of the country that knows
any thing ^{of} assaying metals of this kind
I send it to you to get the true
characture of it what I want is to
know certain. What it is & its value
if any for I know where there is a
very rich mine of it in the state
of California which will yield large
quantities of it, if it is not against the
rules of the mint & you will oblige
me by giving the desired information
and if it should be of any value I will
pay you well for your trouble, and if
you do not wish to be troubled with it
pleas return it to Wm Armstrong
Harrington Iowa

Wm Armstrong
Farming the
Doves

Send specimen of
California pla-
-timum for ex-
-amination.

Rec^d Sept 6/70

This is platinum, in the form in which it is usually found. When purified it is worth five or six dollars an ounce.

I send envelop & Stamp
to return

Yours Respectfully

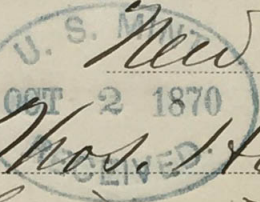
Wm Armstrong
Farmington
Iowa

Platinum in the usual
form it is always found

OFFICE OF THE U. S. ASSISTANT TREASURER,

No. 70

ORIGINAL.



New York, Oct 29, 1870.

I Certify, That Wm. Hillhouse, Treasurer
U.S. Assay office, New York,
this day Deposited to the Credit of the Treasurer of the United States
Twenty five hundred & twenty five ———— 46
Dollars, on account of Available profits, — from July 1, 1868
Sept 30, 1870, pursuant to act of July 20, 1868,

for which I have signed ^{Quadruplicate} ~~duplicate~~ receipts.

G.C. 5,502.90
S.C. 4,072.56

W. G. Miller
Acty Assistant Treasurer U. S.

\$ 75 46/100

To be sent by first Mail to the Secretary of the Treasury



United States Assay Office
New York Oct. 31 1870.

Sir:

I send herewith Triplicate
Receipt No 70 for \$9,575⁴⁶/₁₀₀ "Availa-
ble Profits" from July 1 to Sept. 30,
1870, transferred to U. S. Treasury,
pursuant to Act of July 20, 1868.

Very Respectfully,
Your Obedt. Servant,

Thos. H. Acton
Superintendent.

Hon. James Pollock,
Director of the Mint,
Philadelphia
Penn.^a

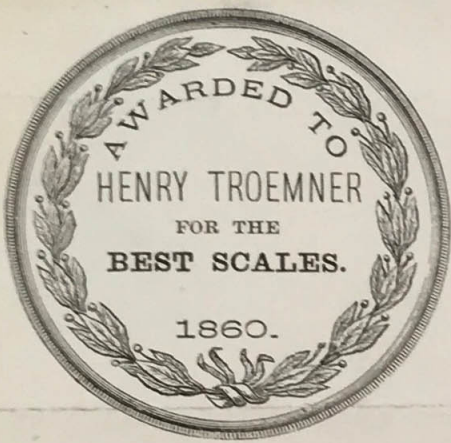
U. S. Assay Office,

New York, Oct. 31, 1870.

Thos. C. Nelson,
Superintendent.

Transmitting Certificate
No 70 of Ass't. Tr. for
"available profits" from
July 1 to Sept. 30, 1870





ESTABLISHED 1840.

HENRY TROEMNER,

MANUFACTURER OF

SCALES, WEIGHTS, & C.,

710 MARKET STREET.



Philadelphia, Oct 29 1870

Hon James Pollock
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

Dear Sir

We enclose herewith invoices for
the Gold Balance forwarded to Baltimore
will you please affix your signature to
the same - and tell us how to address
the invoices - also by what route you
desire us to ship the Balance.

I remain
Yours Very Truly
Henry Troemner
H. T.

Henry Roemer
Phil^a

Enclosing bill for
Gold Scales for
asst Treas U.S.
Baltimore Md.

Rec^d
Oct. 29/70

Philadelphia Oct 29 1870

M

Bought of HENRY TROEMNER,
MANUFACTURER OF SCALES AND WEIGHTS,

710 MARKET STREET.

Bavis & Pennypacker, Steam Power Job Printers, No. 23 South Tenth Street.

One Gold Balance & Weights
Three Cases

650 00

6 90

656 90

Credit

J. A. Pollock.

Dr. as mtd.

Received Payment

Shipped Oct 29
to Baltimore
via

Henry Troemner

Mint of the United States,

MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, 31st Oct - 1870

Hon. James Pollock
Director U.S. Mint

We have on hand, in round
numbers 20.918 lbs of Nickel.

For your information it may be
stated that this will make 83.672 lbs
of 5¢ metal, more than sufficient
for the issue of \$375.000 in value. &
equal at present demand, to 5 years supply.

The amount of 20.918 lbs Nickel is
thus made up.

Am't. of Ni. in Cents on hand 5.320 lbs
in stock unused from last
purchases ~~~~~ 15.100 "
Planchets on hand ~~~~~ 498 "
~~~~~ 20.918 "

Very Respectfully

N. B. Boyd  
for M & R



Letter from  
Melter and Refiner  
on quantity of  
Nickel on hand at  
date.

Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> 1870.



5552

# S

Treasury Department.

Washington. Oct 26<sup>th</sup> 1870.

Sir:

I have received your letter of the 24<sup>th</sup> inst transmitting your annual report of the operations of the Mint and branches for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1870.

Very Respectfully

Geo. S. Boutwell  
Secretary of Treasury.

Hon James Pollock

Director of the Mint

Philadelphia

Penn



Sec'y Treasury

Acknowledging  
Recd of Directors  
annual report





N<sup>o</sup> 4151

Office of the Assistant Treasurer of the U. S.

J. H.

Philadelphia,

Oct. 25 1870

I Certify, That George Cyster

Treas. U. S. Mint

has this day deposited to the credit of the Treasurer of the U. S.

Five thousand ————— Dollars,

on account of Profits on 1, 2, 5, and 10 cent pieces (coins)

for which I have signed triplicate receipts.

\$ 50000

Creston

Assistant Treasurer U. S.



Office U. S. Assistant Treasurer,

Baltimore, Oct-24, 1877.

Dear Sir

I have written to Mr. Root,  
- with in relation to a pair of gold seals  
for this office. urging upon him the  
great need we had for them. He  
replied that in August last he had  
given instructions to you to have  
a pair prepared for me.

Will you be kind enough  
to inform me when I may  
expect them. I submit - me also  
to urge on you how much we  
are inconvenienced by the want  
of them & to ask you to have  
them completed & sent to me as  
soon as possible

Yrs. Jas. R. Dellosch  
Director of Mint Phila

Very Respectfully  
John Regley  
U. S. Asst. Treas



Mr. - Negley  
asst Dir. U. S.  
Baltimore, Md.

Inquire about  
Gold Seals, ordered  
by Sec'y Treasury.







# Treasury Department,

OFFICE OF SUPERVISING ARCHITECT,

October 20<sup>th</sup>, 1870.

Sir,

I have to advise you that a bill in favor of the U. S. Mint at Philadelphia for \$140<sup>00</sup>, amount due on account of 100 oz. granulated silver furnished the Photographers of this Department, as per express receipts attached, has been this day referred for examination, settlement and remittance in silver coin of the amount named, a draft for which will probably reach you in a few days.

Very Respectfully

J. D. Mallon

Supervising Architect.

James Pollock, Esq.,  
Director U. S. Mint.  
Philadelphia, Pa.



A. B. Mullett  
Sup. Architect  
Washington D.C.

Draft \$140. in  
Silver Coin for 100 oz  
granulated Silver Sent  
Photographer Treas<sup>r</sup> Dept  
with to sent in few  
days.





# Mint of the United States,

MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, 20. Oct. 1870

Hon. James Pollock  
Director U. S. Mint.

Dear Sir,

There are a few points in the letter of the Supt<sup>t</sup> N.Y. Ass. Off. that may perhaps be noted for your consideration.

1. Mr Mason says that he examined all the bullion sent per Invoice 26, and believed it to be suitable for coinage.

In the first place, the Assayer is the only official judge of quality by his assay, especially as to the content of Sulphur, Tin, Lead, Antimony, &c.

because the eye will not detect them, and

2. ~~and~~ the mere fact of toughness, apparent to the eye, is not a sufficient indication of toughness in rolling ingots for coin, because the addition of the requisite copper for coin, may render an appar-



entirely tough silver, quite hard & brittle.  
A very small amount of sulphur or  
antimony, &c. is sufficient for this effect,  
my impression is less than one per cent.  
Again, 5 pr. ct. lead in silver, which is  
quite common, makes the coiner reject  
the ingots as unsuitable.

3. All such metal rec<sup>d</sup> from the Ass. Off.  
I toughen by acid at present, at a cost  
of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  @ 3 cts. per oz., from which the  
depositor has escaped at the cost of the  
U. S. Gov<sup>t</sup>.

Very truly yours  
J A C Booth  
M & R

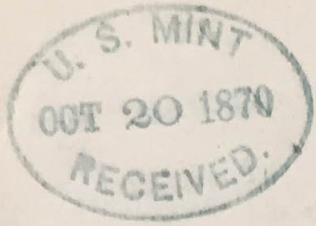


Jas. C. Boothe  
Ch & R.

Reply to Supt  
Acton's Explanation  
of impurities in the  
Silver from N. Y.  
Assay Office.







United States Assay Office  
New York Oct. 19 1870.

Sir:

Your communication of the 12<sup>th</sup> inst., enclosing a copy of a note from Professor Booth in regard to Invoice No. 26, has been received.

I referred your letter, with the enclosure, to Mr. Mason, Meltzer & Refiner, who stated in regard to it that he examined with care all the bullion of which complaint is made, & believed it to be good tough metal, suitable for coinage; & he was much surprised that Professor Booth should have found it otherwise. Especial pains will be taken that no cause for complaint of this kind shall hereafter be given.

An examination of the Treasurer's report shows that a toughening charge was made to depositors upon



the following deposits, two of which  
were resmelted:

|          |                        |                |
|----------|------------------------|----------------|
| No 561 - | Toughening 1 c per oz. | \$10.19        |
| 578 -    | " 1/2 c " "            | 5.04           |
| 621 -    | " 1 1/2 c " "          | 7.33           |
| Total,   |                        | <u>\$22.56</u> |

As, in Mr. Mason's judgment, all  
the metal sent was sufficiently tough  
for coinage, the Mint was not credited  
with this amount; since it was not  
found to be so, the proper credit will  
be given when the next invoice is  
dispatched.

Very Respectfully,  
Your Obedt. Servant.

Hon. James Pollock,  
Director of the Mint,  
Philadelphia,  
Penn.

Thos. L. Norton  
Superintendent.



N. Y. Assay Office

Reply to M & R.  
Complaints of  
impure silver  
sent to the Mint  
for the assay  
office.







5

Treasury Department,

October, 15, 1870.

Sir:

Please forward to this Department without delay the annual report of the operations of the U. S. Mint at Phila and the various branch mints and assay offices under your control so that it may be put into the hands of the Congressional Committee by the 1st prox. as required by law.

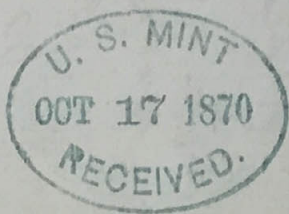
James P. Smith Esq  
Director of Mint  
Philada. Penna

Very Respectfully  
J. P. Hancey  
Assistant Secretary.



Asst Secy Treasury  
J. H. Hartley

Wants annual  
report, for the  
public printer.





(Copy)

American Nickel Works  
Camden N.J. Oct 14. 1870

George Egster Esq  
Treasurer U.S. Mint

Dear Sir

You are already aware that the price of nickel is rising and that the metal is now scarcer than usual in Europe. It is in fact for the first time in several years recovering from the artificial depression to which the English forced it, and will probably now recover its normal price.

Having offered to several of my customers to give them a supply at the price of \$1.30 gold, I think proper to make the same offer through you to the Mint, for any reasonable quantity, not however urging you to buy, nor pretending to know what the future demands of the Mint may be, but merely to afford you the option of taking in a stock at the above named price if you so desire.

This price is lower than English can now be had for, and I shall of course in case you do not think expedient now to purchase, always be prepared to deal with you on terms favorable to the Government, so long as I continue in the business. Yours truly  
(Signed) Joseph Wharton



Philadelphia

October 28. 1870

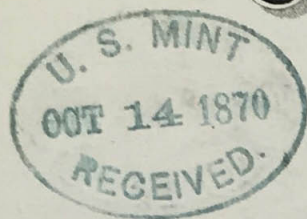
Respectfully referred to  
the Director of the Mint  
for his suggestions

(signed) Geo Eyster  
Treasurer



2.

# Treasury of the United States,



CASH DIVISION,

Washington Oct. 13 1870.

Sir:

I enclose my transfer draft on  
Philadelphia, No. 120, in your favor,  
for six hundred (600.) dollars, for  
which please send me

3<sup>d</sup> nickel coin

600. #

Rec'd 10/14/70  
W

Very respectfully,  
L. L. Tuttle  
Treasury.

Jas. Pollock,

Director U. S. Mint,

Philadelphia,

Pa.



Am. L. L. Tuttle  
Asst Treas U.S.  
Washington D.C.

Orders \$600.  
3  $\phi$  nickel coin.





# Mint of the United States,

MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, 7 Oct. 1870

Hon. James Pollock  
Director U.S. Mint

Dear Sir,

I regret that I must continue to Report that the Silver rec<sup>d</sup> from the N.Y. Assay Office, per Invoice N<sup>o</sup> 26 contains the following amounts of metal containing tin & sulphur.

|                    |               |        |                |    |
|--------------------|---------------|--------|----------------|----|
| N <sup>o</sup> 536 | contains tin, | weight | 813.55         | oz |
| " 578              | " "           | "      | 1000.50        | "  |
| " 620              | " "           | "      | 920.15         | "  |
| " 653              | " "           | "      | 1010.85        | "  |
| " 621              | " "           | "      | 486.80         | "  |
|                    |               |        | <u>4231.85</u> | "  |

|                              |            |       |                |   |
|------------------------------|------------|-------|----------------|---|
| " 561                        | " Sulphur, | "     | 1016.05        | " |
| " 484, 800, }<br>816, 821, } | "          | about | 300.00         | " |
|                              |            |       | <u>1316.05</u> | " |

Total of both = 5547.90 "



I cannot find that any special cost of  
Toughening has been allowed on the N.Y.  
Invoice, but I may state that I have  
been obliged to toughen all the above  
by solution & precipitation at a cost  
of about 3 cts. pr. oz. gross; as follows

$$5547.90 @ 3 \text{ cts.} = \$166.43\frac{7}{10}$$

Either the Assay Office has charged this  
to depositors, & forgotten to give the Mint  
the credit for the same; - or they have not  
charged it, so that they have paid the  
above \$166.<sup>43</sup>/<sub>100</sub> to depositors, which  
they were not entitled to receive, and  
have caused the Mint to reimburse  
them for the outlay.

Very truly yours  
J. A. C. Booth  
M. V. R.

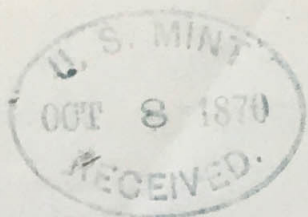


James C. Booth  
M. & R.

Complaint of  
Silver Invoice No. 26,  
from N. Y. Assay Office

Recd Oct 7/70





Office of U. S. Assistant Treasurer,

Boston, Mass., *Oct 4*, 1870.

Sir:

Please find herewith a five cent-  
nickel coin of remarkable thinness  
but otherwise apparently good. Is the  
coin of genuine issue?

Yours very truly  
F. T. Hamer

Assist. Treas. U.S.

Hon James Pollock  
Director of the Mint  
Philadelphia.

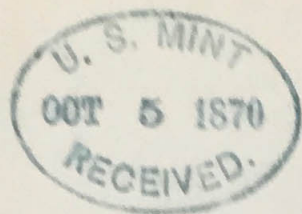


H. Haven Jr  
asst Treas. U. S.  
Boston  
Mass

Enclosing 5¢  
Nickel for Examina-  
-ation







United States Assay Office  
New York Oct. 4 1870.

Sir:

In accordance with instructions contained in your letter of April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1870, I send for your information the following list of changes in the pay-rolls of this Office:

| Name.            | Position.     | Date.                                 |
|------------------|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| Carl Schultz     | Asst. Assayer | Resigned June 11, 1870.               |
| Peter M. Stule   | Engineer      | Died Aug. 4, "                        |
| A. MacLay        | Bullion Clerk | Removed * " 31, "                     |
| J. Bagen         | Messenger     | " " 31, "                             |
| Phillip Corrigan | Engineer      | Appointed <sup>from</sup> † Oct. 1, " |

\* Approved by the Secretary July 29<sup>th</sup> 1870  
† " " Sept. 26, "

Very Respectfully,

Yours, Gt. Sergeant,

Thos. C. Victor

Superintendent.

Hon. James Pollock,  
Director of the Mint,  
Philadelphia,  
Penn.



U. S. Assay Office,  
New York,  
Oct. 4. 1870.

Thos. C. Acton,  
Superintendent.

List of changes in  
Assay Office Pay-rolls.







## CIRCULAR.

### Treasury Department,

*October 3, 1870.*

*To all Officers, Clerks, and other Employes under  
the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury :*

*The attention of the Department having been called to the fact that much of the correspondence of the various offices connected therewith is written with volatile and perishable inks, it is hereby ordered that from the date of the receipt of this order none but the following inks be used :*

#### **COPYING INKS.**

*Arnold's Copying Ink.*

*Maynard & Noyes Copying Ink.*

*French Copying Ink, "Encre A, Copier B."*

#### **WRITING FLUIDS AND INKS.**

*Arnold's Writing Fluid.*

*Maynard & Noyes Writing Ink, black.*

*Thaddeus Davids & Co.'s Writing Ink, black.*

*Thaddeus Davids & Co.'s Writing Ink, blue.*

*Carter's Combined Copying Ink and Writing Fluid.*

#### **CARMINE.**

*Thaddeus Davids & Co.'s.*

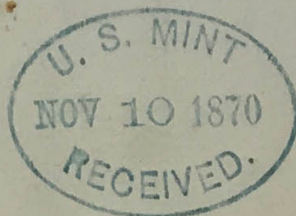
*Meyers.*

*Secretary of the Treasury.*



Secy Treasury

Circular, pre-  
scribing the  
kinds of Ink  
to be used.





J. W. W.  
Room

8

Recd  
Oct 13/70

Treasury Department,

October 14<sup>th</sup>, 1870.

Sir:

I would thank you to furnish for the use of this Department one hundred ounces (100 oz.) granulated silver, which you will please forward to L. E. Walker, Photographer, U. S. Treasury Department.

Very Respectfully,

Geo. B. Smith,  
Secretary of the Treasury

James Pollock, Esq.

Director U. S. Mint,

Philadelphia  
Penn.



Sec'y Treasury

Wants 100 ozs. gran-  
ulated Silver, for  
L. E. Walker,  
Photographer  
Treasury Dept

Rec Oct. 15/70



# Mint of the United States,

MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, 17. Oct. 1870

U. S. Treasury Dept.

To U. S. Mint, Dr

To 100 ounces of Pure Silver

@ 1000 m. fine, @ \$1.40 = \$140.00

J. A. C. Booth

M. & R.



# MANUFACTURERS' BANK,

CHARTERED BY STATE AUTHORITY.

**CAPITAL, \$75,000.00.**

Moline, Ills., Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> 1870,

Esq. Tallock Esq.

Philadelphia Penn

Dear Sir:

We have in our hands a quantity of Gold Dust which we desire to dispose of and would like to know the U.S. Mint regulations in regard to shipment, coinage etc. also whether it can be left in your hands subject to our orders, or whether we could have a Draft for Current value, your early reply solicited

Very respectfully,

C. F. Hemenway

(S)

Sent a Circular

Dec 1. 1870



C. L. Newbury -

Manufacture Bk  
Mo line  
Ill

Nov 28. 1870

Wants to dispose of lot  
of gold dust



Rec<sup>d</sup> Nov. 15/70 19 Park Place, New York  
Nov 14<sup>th</sup> 1870

Hon. Jas. Pollock  
Director U. S. Mint, Philadelphia

Dear Sir

Since my last letter to you on the subject of Miller's Chlorine Gas Process for Refining Gold, I have been notified that Dr. Miller, the inventor, is dead, the death having occurred last month while he was attending the meeting of the British Association at Liverpool. As it is impossible at present to say what disposition will be made of his personal property, I am not at present prepared to say whether your proposal respecting the testing of the process can be accepted or not.

It may be some time before the Executor or administrator is able, or is in position to act in this matter and the question arises whether it would



not be well to apply to the Secretary of the Treasury to authorize the expenditure of the sum necessary to test the process in the mint. If he should do this, you could have the tests made at once, and the papers which were put into my hands by Dr. Miller's request, are sufficient to enable the professional gentlemen you have in the mint to test the process without difficulty.

You will oblige me by giving me your views on this subject.

Yours respectfully

E. S. Renwick

I may say that shortly before his death Dr. Miller had sent to his brother at the Sydney Mint to arrange for a visit to this country for the purpose of making the trial at the Mint, but the death of Dr. Miller has stopped all proceedings.

E. S. Renwick -  
Ad Nov 15-10 / 1870



massie,  
14. 1870.

no receipt for  
the weights sent over  
is received here  
three days since. The box  
not being delivered I requested  
the Supt. this morning to  
send to the Express Office to  
ascertain the cause of  
delay & learned that  
the box containing the  
weights were forwarded  
from New York by Steamer  
Grand ~~which~~ <sup>which</sup> due here  
on 27<sup>th</sup> inst. I suppose  
you intended that the  
box should be forwarded  
overland & only call your  
attention to the matter  
in order that you may



d of the

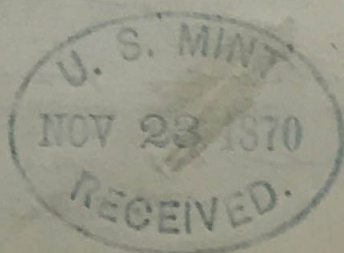
Chair circumstances  
into matters  
near that I  
ed made a critical  
examination of the weights  
used in the Br. Mint & I  
cannot do so make the  
weights sent by you are  
referred here.

The practice of filing  
gold coins is carried on  
here to a considerable extent,  
the South Eagle of 1870  
being generally selected  
for that purpose. The  
matter is now in the  
hands of the police  
authorities & prompt  
arrests are hoped for  
Respectfully Yours  
H. B. Richardson




Standard key  
sent by steamer  
not by rail.

Reports filing  
of gold coin in  
California. —







Mr James Follock

Master H. S. P.

Phila



Enclosing this the police  
detectives have made  
an important arrest -  
found a quantity of  
filid & G. in their possession  
which they were passing off.



J. Edwin Conant & Co.,  
Rail Road Contractors.

No. 33 Wall Street.

New York Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> 1870

Hon. James Pollock.  
Director of the Mint.  
Philadelphia  
Dear Sir.

Enclosed you  
will find a letter from Dr J. Torrey  
of the U. S. State Assay Office N. York  
in regard to a quantity of Nickel  
(Swedish) which I have for sale and  
which the Dr has had the kindness  
to assay for me - and found very  
pure and free from Arsenic. And  
in a condition to be used for the  
purposes for which you require it.

J. Ross Snowden former Director  
of U. S. Mint used a considerable  
quantity of this Nickel from this



mine some years since. And  
was very much pleased with it  
and the mine would probably have  
continued to use this nickel up to  
this time if it could have been  
obtained but the mine decreased  
in product and the parties connected  
with absorbed the whole product -  
The mine has however now gone  
into new hands who have enlarged  
the works and engagements might  
now possibly be made for a con-  
tinuous future supply - if proposals  
were made immediately - as there  
is a strong demand for this quality  
of nickel in Europe - and the  
proprietors have written out to them  
this invoice of 1430, lbs. returned  
to them if not disposed of immediately  
we have put the price of this lot  
at 80 cts per pound Gold. which is



very low - simply to have the mint  
try it - And if you would like  
to make arrangements for the future  
I will try and see what can be  
done with the propitios and arrange  
on a price -

I have sent with this letter  
a small box of the Nickel as  
sent to us - and in the box a  
small piece of Nickel melted by  
Dr Toney at the office here -

An answer as early as con-  
venient will much oblige

Yours Truly

Jos. H Bailey -

care of  
33. Wall St - as above -



Jos. H. Bailey  
New York

Offers to sell a  
lot of Swedish  
nickel to the Mint.

Rec'd Nov. 26.



# Mint of the United States,

MELTING AND REFINING DEPARTMENT.

Philadelphia, 30. Nov. 1870

Hon. James Pollock  
Director, U. S. Mint  
Dear Sir,

The sample of Swedish nickel resembles that formerly purchased in small quantities by the Mint from M<sup>r</sup> Aufermann, the Swedish Consul. We found it good enough for use, but not equal to the American, English or German (best quality). It fell short in percentage of nickel of the quantity reported in the Swedish analysis, so that we paid for it by the analysis of nickel Cent-metal, made from it. It makes little difference, however, what the quality may be, we have so many years' stock of nickel on hand, that I would regard as the extreme of mercantile folly for us to purchase a single pound more. Very truly yours  
J. C. Booth



# U. S. Assay Office

New York Nov<sup>r</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> 1876

Hon. James Pollock

Director of the Mint

My dear Sir -

A friend of mine  
Mr. Joseph Bailey, has a quantity  
of an alloy of "Nickel & Copper, (61.3  
Nickel & 37.5 Copper - the remainder -  
Iron" - The quantity of the alloy is  
12430 lbs. I told him that he, perhaps,  
could dispose of it at the mint, & I  
know you will give his application your  
attention. He is a gentleman of sterling  
worth, whom I have known for a  
long time -

Your old friend  
John Torrey



Utahace Sanples co N.Y

Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> 1870.  
Jas Pollock Esq.

Dear Sir! Yours of Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> 70,  
is at hand. Please allow me

in defending my suggestions to  
say in reply to yours, 1<sup>st</sup> That Congress  
will do just what you please. If it  
is not in favor with Congress, it will  
be because "the Mint", is carting  
cold water on the progress of events  
for a new currency. Congress is but  
a tool, not a power. Try it next  
winter clearly & see. Congress will  
do just what you wish or recom-  
mend.

To your 2<sup>nd</sup> The  
three cent is a neat & convenient coin,  
& large & thick enough for a cent.  
The 5<sup>ct</sup> piece ought not to be  
thicker than the three cent piece.  
To your 3<sup>rd</sup>. What a large part



S. V. Parker

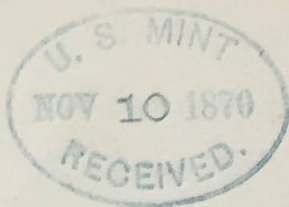
Ithica N.Y.

Nov. 21/70

on change of the  
base coinage

No 10





BOX 10  
POST OFFICE.

Hendricks Brothers,

49 CLIFF STREET

New York, Nov 9 1870

James Pollock Esq

Director Mint of the U.S.

Dear Sir

Yours of the 8<sup>th</sup> inst at hand  
and Contents noted. Enclosed be hand  
you receipted voucher as requested, and  
would reply in regard to mode of payment  
that a check or draft by mail will  
be perfectly satisfactory, and remain

Yours Truly  
Hendricks Brothers



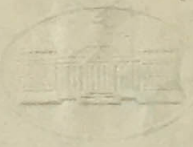
Hendrick Brothers  
New York

Return warrant  
duly accepted, for  
\$469.<sup>43</sup> Jan  
from copper





Rice Nov 9/70



Althaca Thompson Co N.Y  
Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> 1870.

Sup't. U.S. Mint.

Philadelphia Pa. Dear Sir:

I wish to ask you, may not get Congress to authorize a change in coinage as follows.

1<sup>st</sup>. That the copper be dropped out of the cent. Or in other words, that the Cent be made of the same metal as the three cent piece now out except a little reduced by nickle; so that they shall be a little thinner, but about the size of the present three cent piece.

2<sup>nd</sup> That the five cent piece be changed so as to be as pure metal as the three cent piece.



upsets all antiquated ideas,  
& certainly we can have  
a new step in coinage.

As to Congress, it will easily  
sanction any improvement you  
may suggest.

I am but a private citizen,  
yet I am for progress in all  
things. Respectfully  
J. J. Parker

Ch. S.

Rec<sup>d</sup> Nov 10 1870

in U. S. S. Court

Suggests improvements

J. J. Parker  
N. Y.



39

7

## Treasury Department,

November 5, 1870.

Sir:

I enclose herewith check No. 1498 drawn by Bushrod Birch a disbursing clerk of this Department, in your favor upon the U.S. Assistant Treasurer at New York for \$656.90. in payment of your bill of the 1st instant for furnishing the U.S. Asst. Treasurer at Baltimore with a "Gold Balance".

Very respectfully

D. A. Hartley

Henry Freeman, Esq.

Acting Secretary.

410 Market Street

Philadelphia, Pa.

(Care of the Director of the Mint)



J. B. Hartley  
Acting Sec'y of  
the Treasury

Enclosing chke  
\$656 90 for  
Henry Froemner for  
gold scales for Asst  
Treas. W. B. Balti-  
more, Md.

Rec<sup>d</sup> Nov 7. 1870



# Mint of the United States.

Philadelphia, Nov. 7. 1870

Rec<sup>d</sup> of Hon. James Pollock  
Director of the Mint, Check to  
my order No. 1498, from <sup>Disbursing clerk</sup> Bureau  
of the <sup>Disbursing clerk</sup> Washington D.C. in the  
Asst. Treas. U.S. at New  
York for six hundred & fifty six  $\frac{90}{100}$   
Dollars (\$656  $\frac{90}{100}$ ) transmitted to  
the Director for me by Hon. J. H.  
Hartley, Acting Secretary of the  
Treasury, under date of Nov. 5. 1870,  
in payment of my bill for a pair  
of Coin Scales furnished to the  
Asst. Treas. U.S. Baltimore, Md.

Henry Inverness  
710 Market Street  
Philadelphia Pa.



1106  
Mint of the United States.

Philadelphia, Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> 1870

Geo. Eyster Esq. Treas. U. S. Mint  
Dear Sir

In reply to the note of  
Mr. Wharton of Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> ult., and  
referred to me by you Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> 1870,  
I have to say that we have now on  
hand, as reported to me by the  
proper officers of the Mint, over  
twenty thousand pounds (20,000)  
or ten (10) tons of nickel; a quantity  
sufficient, at present rate of demand  
and consumption, for nearly five  
years supply. It would not be  
advisable to increase this quantity.  
When required, the American  
nickel should be purchased in  
preference to the foreign article.

Yours Respectfully

J. A. Pollock  
Director



D. 1106 N. 1 1871

U. S. Mint  
Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> / 70.

Director U S Mint

Refus to the  
purchase of nickel

Recd for filing  
Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> 1871  
L. G. & check



# THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

The rules of this Company require that all messages received for transmission, shall be written on the message blanks of the Company, under and subject to the conditions printed thereon, which conditions have been agreed to by the sender of the following message.

THOS. T. ECKERT, Gen'l Sup't,  
New York.

28 WILLIAM ORTON, Pres't,  
O. H. PALMER, Sec'y, } New York.

Dated *Virginia - Nev. Dec 30 <sup>1h</sup> 1870*

Received at  
To *Gov James Pollock*  
*1934 Race St*

*We are Bullion dealers  
does the U S government guarantee  
the values stamped on Carson  
mint-unparted have will other  
American mints receive them  
as stamped without assay  
Please telegraph.*

*Bitterman & Co.*

*30/ collect-15¢.*



Bitterman & Co  
Virginia  
New

Does the Gov't guarantee  
the value stamped on  
Unpartia bars, at the  
Mints.

Rec<sup>d</sup> Dec 31, 1870

Direct Wires.

WHERE ANY REPLY SHOULD BE SENT.



W. L. Apsay Office  
New York Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> 1870

Thos C. Acton Esq  
Superintendent

Dear Sir

The annexed "Table of Charges" is submitted for your consideration, and, if approved, for the proper action to secure its adoption.

It has been Carefully prepared after Close Watchfulness and Calculation of Cost of the various operations; and, though it reduces some of the present Charges more than one half, they are possibly still too high if the Cost of experimental trials is only Considered, without regard to incidental expenses, - in view of the law, which requires them to be adjusted "from time to time so as not to exceed" the "actual expense".

By this Reduction of Charges, the owners of bullion, and the Mining interests generally, may now share directly (as every citizen has hitherto and will still share indirectly) in the benefit resulting from the improvements introduced in the separating and refining operations in this department.

As you are aware, a further Change has been effected during the year, by the almost entire substitution of the use of Sulphuric acid for that of Nitric Acid.

The two improvements hitherto Reported, by which a saving of about Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.) per annum resulted, had no objectionable features; - every part of the process was improved by them. - By the last Change.



the labor is somewhat increased; - preliminary operations are needed on some kinds of bullion, - and traces of gold are apt to be left in the silver; - nevertheless, the additional saving of expense will be about Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10000.) pr annum -

The table of Charges is lessened in size, and somewhat simplified in form. The provision in it for returning in large bars the same metal as deposited, at a moderate charge, is in response to an application from bullion owners that seems reasonable.

Hoping that the reduction of Charges, herewith suggested and recommended, may be approved, I am Respectfully Yours,

André Mason  
Melter & Refiner



# Table of Charges for Refining &c in the United States Assay Office, New York.

For Separating gold & silver bullion, (when the value of each metal is one dollar over charges),

Cont<sup>d</sup> 700 ~~ms~~ (or over) gold ...  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ¢ pr ounce gross

" 450 " to 699 $\frac{1}{2}$  ~~ms~~ " ... 2 ¢ " "

" 1 " " 449 $\frac{1}{2}$  " " ...  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ¢ " "

For Refining gold bullion (Copper alloy) the Charges are the same as for Separating, except when Coin is returned, they are only on the amount required to raise the whole to standard.

For Making Fine Bars from separated or refined gold - 5 ¢ pr hundred dollars

" " " " " Silver - - -  $\frac{1}{2}$  ¢ pr ounce

For Refining Silver Bullion (and making Fine Bars),

Cont<sup>d</sup> 980 ~~ms~~ (or over) Silver - - -  $\frac{1}{2}$  ¢ pr ounce gross

" 950 " to 979 $\frac{1}{2}$  ~~ms~~ " - - - 1 ¢ " "

" less than 950 " " - - -  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ¢ " "

For Refining Silver Bullion (to return Coin),

Cont<sup>d</sup> less than 900 ~~ms~~ Silver - - -  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ¢ pr ounce on the amount required to raise the whole to standard -

For Making Standard Bars - 50 ¢ pr hundred dollars.

For Returning the same metal as deposited,

in large bars - -  $\frac{1}{3}$  ¢ pr ounce gross -

For Making gold or silver bars of a special fineness,

otherwise than above; - and for Separating or Refining when other alloy than Copper is in the bullion (rendering the expense greater) - - 6 ¢ to 3 ¢ pr ounce gross  
in addition to the foregoing rates.



United States Assay Office  
New York Dec. 31 1870.

Sir:

I send enclosed a communication addressed to me by Mr. Mason, our Metallurgist & Refiner, in regard to certain reductions in the charges upon bullion deposited at this Office, which he believes, after careful experiment, can safely be made for the benefit of depositors. The table annexed will show the changes proposed.

I respectfully ask your attention to the letter & accompanying schedule, & would be glad to hear from you in regard to them as early as convenient.

Very Respectfully,

J. C. Acton  
Superintendent.

Mr. James Pollock,  
Director of the Mint,  
Philadelphia  
Penn<sup>a</sup>



U. S. Assay Office  
New York

Dec 31, 1870

Relation to reduction of  
Dullion Charges at the  
Assay Office

Recd Jan 2, 1871



MINT OF THE UNITED STATES,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT,

Philadelphia, 29 Dec. 1870

Hon. James Pollock

Director of the U. S. Mint

Dear Sir

With the recent and present active Silver business of the Mint, I have been much hampered for want of a sufficient Silver Bullion Fund, to conduct my operations securely and yet to supply the active demand for Coin and Fine Bars. One half of each lot of Ingots delivered to the Coiner is returned to me to be melted & assayed, & again delivered to him as Ingots, so that it remains in our hands not less than 10 days or two weeks.

To accommodate the public, the depositor should be paid within two or three days after making his deposit, which we cannot now accomplish without endangering losses to the Government from overhaste. To accomplish this end, the Bullion Fund should



should be always in proportion to the amount of business transacted. I have made the following estimate of the amount proportioned to the present business of the Mint. Amounts of Silver req<sup>d</sup> on hand by:

|                                         |                   |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------|
| The Melter & Refiner, For refining Gold | \$ 30,000         |
| For working "Ingots (Standard)          | \$ 100,000        |
| " making Fine Bars                      | 10,000            |
| The Chief Coiner Working Stock          | 40,000            |
| The Treasurer Fine Bars (ready)         | 10,000            |
| Ready coin, below half dollar,          | 25,000            |
| " " Half dollar                         | 50,000            |
| " " Dollar                              | 45,000            |
|                                         | <u>\$ 310,000</u> |

The amount on hand, reported about 200,000

Deficiency for efficient working \$ 110,000

If therefore the bullion fund could be increased by about \$100,000 = we should secure despatch & safety.

Respectfully yours

J. A. C. Booth

Melter & Refiner



J. C. Booth, M. & R.  
U. S. Mint

Reports a required  
increase of \$100,000,  
in the Silver Bullion  
Fund of the Mint.

Rec<sup>d</sup> Dec 29, 1870



MINT OF THE UNITED STATES,

MELTING & REFINING DEPARTMENT,

Philadelphia, 28<sup>th</sup> Dec. 1870

Hon. James Pollock

Director of the U. S. Mint.

Dear Sir,

I have compared the weights from the New York Assay Office, ordered to be adjusted at the Mint by the Secretary of the Treasury, with the U. S. Standard Troy Pound; and have found, that, since their adjustment, they accurately agree with that Pound, in all their divisions, from five hundred ounces to the one-hundredth of the ounce.

Respectfully yours

J. C. Booth

Melter and Refiner

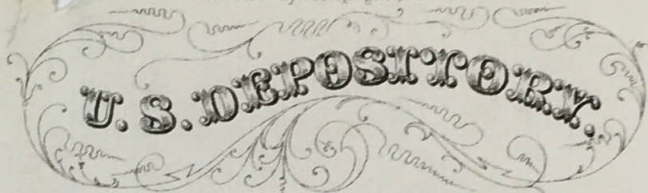


J. C. Boothe  
WTR

Certifies accuracy,  
after adjustment, of  
Standard weights at  
N. Y. Assay Office

Rec Dec 28/79





CAPITAL STOCK \$500,000.

George Walker, President

Fred. H. Harris, Cashier

# Third National Bank.

Springfield, Mass., Dec. 22. 1870

Director U. S. Mint,

Phila. Pa.,

Dear Sir,

I have forwarded this day by Adams Express Co. One hundred Dollars in Nickel cents, contained in two boxes (50 in each)

If convenient, please send for proceeds a check on N.Y. if not, three-cent coin.

I should like, also a copy of instructions in regard to the purchase of Nickel cents.

Yours resp.

F. H. Harris Cas.

E. W. Feezer,

100<sup>th</sup> - \$98 - m 34 - + 48 old cents returned -



7 H. Harris Larkin

for K Va

Third National Bk

Springfield Mass

Deficit of \$5.00

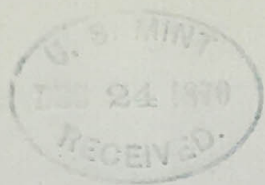
~~is lot of~~ ~~Notes~~

<sup>unt</sup>  
5 ~~4~~ / ctions in rep<sup>y</sup>  
to purchase of  
Cents

Rec. Dec 26 <sup>th</sup> 1870

Rec. ~~Dec 26<sup>th</sup>~~ 1870





United States Assay Office  
New York Dec. 22 1870.

Sir:

With the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury, under date of Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>, 1870, I have appointed Nicholas Hays to be a Night Watchman in this Office, at \$4. per diem; his service to date from the 22<sup>d</sup> inst. The required oath has been duly administered, & forwarded to the First Comptroller of the Treasury.

Very Respectfully,

Thos. G. Acton  
Superintendent.

Hon. James Pollock,  
Director of the Mint,  
Philadelphia,  
Penn.



N. Y. Assay Office

Reports appt of a  
Night Watchman.



# Farmers & Mechanics National Bank OF FREDERICK.

Frederick, Md Dec 23<sup>d</sup> 1870

Hon

James Pollock

Superintendent U.S. Mint

Philadelphia

Dear Sir

I forward you by "Adams Express" in Nickel Cent pieces for redemption

Two (2) Kegs

1 Containing 200 pounds

1 Containing 196 <sup>4</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

396 pounds

For which you will please favor me with your Draft on U.S. Treasurer or forward me Five Cent Nickel Coins for same. I would prefer a draft on the Treasurer, if you could so arrange it, we are overstocked with Nickel of every kind, and would save Expense in remitting the Five Cent Nickel to the Treasurer for Redemption Turn over



If you are Compelled to redeem the  
Nickel Cents. dont send any three,  
Send all in Five Cent Nickels

Very Truly  
Yours

J M Birney  
Was

394<sup>th</sup>      \$386.<sup>12</sup> 5¢ to be returned &  
140 old Nickels

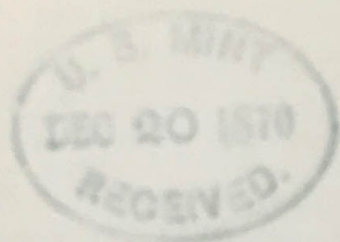


J. W. Birley care  
Frederick Md

Sends Tucker cents &  
wants drop for amt  
Returned

Recd Dec 24<sup>th</sup> 1870





United States Assay Office  
New York Dec. 19 1870.

Sir:

In accordance with the request  
contained in your letter of the 17<sup>th</sup> inst.,  
I have this day forwarded by express  
the standard weights in use at this Office  
for adjusting the ordinary weights.

Respectfully Yours,

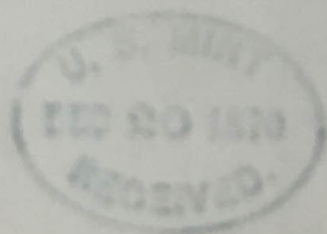
Thos. G. Alden  
Superintendent.

Hon. James Pollock,  
Director of the Mint,  
Philadelphia,  
Penn.<sup>a</sup>



N. Y. Assay Office

Has forwarded  
their Standard  
weights for re-  
adjustment.

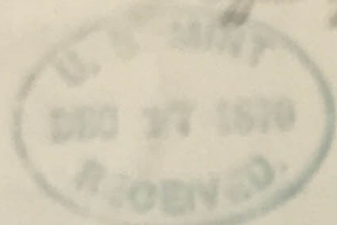




Treasury Department,

Office of Comptroller of the Currency.

Dec 16 1870



My Dear Sir

I will thank  
you to forward to my  
address (officially), ten  
copies of your annual  
report in pamphlet form.

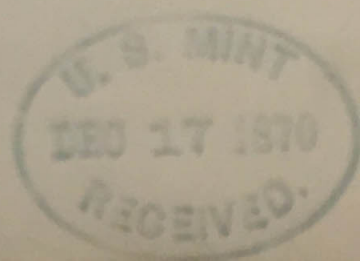
Very respectfully  
J. Mayfield  
Acty Comptroller

Wm James Pollock  
Director of the Mint  
Philadelphia



John Jay Knox  
Dep. Comptroller of  
the Currency

Wash 10 Copies  
Director, Annual  
Report.





U.S. MINT GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE 1870/SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER

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